

## FIGHTING AT VERDUN THE BLOODIEST IN HISTORY, IT IS SAID

Wounded Continue to Attack One Another When Unable to Stand

### BUTCHERY IS HORRIBLE

Men Go Insane—Amputations Without Anesthetics—7,000 Dead On 700 Yards of Front—Battle In Dark Tunnels

(By the United Press)

Paris, May 25.—The French have advanced along the west Meuse bank and east of Cumieres village in Grenade fighting, the war office today announced. The Germans, attack fiercely, captured a French trench north of Haudromont Quarries. Violent artillery duels continue around Douaumont.

#### Story of Horrible Fighting.

All French military experts here are agreed that this week's fighting about Verdun has been the bloodiest in history. The Germans have lost more men than in any other week of the war. The men are fighting in dark underground tunnels, using their knives, grenades and hand searchlights. In some places hundreds of soldiers have been buried alive in the wrecking of tunnels by shell fire.

Scores are insane from the lust of the horrible butchery.

Surgeons are performing amputations without anesthetics. They say the German and French wounded continue fighting with knives though unable to stand.

One French captain reported seven thousand dead heaped along 700 yards of front.

## YOUNG WIFE FOUND DEAD IN HER BED

Mrs. Bryant Davenport, about 25, wife of a Neuse township farmer, died suddenly in bed at the home, some miles from here Wednesday. She had been in rather poor health for a time, and was the mother of an infant only a month old. It is supposed that heart trouble caused her demise. The husband discovered her body. She was Miss Eliza Casey before marriage. She is survived by several children as well as the husband.

The funeral was conducted by Rev. W. O. Bodell of this city at Woodington this afternoon.

## ASSOCIATION SOUTHERN COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS MEETS DURHAM IN FALL

(By the United Press)  
Durham, May 25.—Durham was selected for the meeting-place for the 22d annual session of the Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools of the Southern States, November 15 to 17. The membership comprises 37 colleges and 45 secondary schools.

## HOPE TO ORGANIZE GUN CLUB TONIGHT

There will be a meeting in the Hotel Tull at 8 o'clock this evening to organize a gun club for Kinston. Every one interested in shooting is invited to be present. It is hoped to get as many members as possible to make a start before the recently-opened season is too far advanced. If the club can be organized this evening a team of shooters will probably be selected immediately to participate in the State meet at Tarboro in a few weeks.

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## REFUSED FUNSTON'S REQUEST FOR MORE REGULARS, ADMIT'D

Coast Artillery Branch Did Not Feel That More Men Could Be Spared—Asked for Reinforcements After Militia Called

By CARL GROAT,  
(United Press Staff Correspondent)  
Washington, May 25.—That Funston had requested additional coast artillery for the border service and had been refused, was confirmed today at the War Department. The explanation was that the coast artillery branch felt it would be unwise to strip the coast defenses any further. The request was made after the militia had been called out.

## WAIITE TO TAKE STAND IN HIS OWN DEFENSE

Counsel Announces That Youth Now Charged With Murdering Wealthy Father-in-Law Will Testify In His Own Behalf at Trial In New York—Brother of Defendant First Witness

(By the United Press)  
New York, May 25.—Dr. Arthur Warren Waite will take the stand in his own defense in his trial for murdering his father-in-law, John Peck, the Michigan millionaire, according to Walter Deuel, Waite's attorney, who outlined the defense on an insanity ground. Frank Waite, a brother, was the first witness.

## TEXAS MILITIAMEN WHO REFUSED SERVE FACE COURTMARTIAL

Baker Changes His Mind—116 to Be Tried—Likely Most of Judges Will Be Officers National Guard

(By the United Press)  
Washington, May 21.—Reversing yesterday's decision, Secretary Baker announced today that he will direct the court-martial of the 116 Texas militiamen charged with failing to present themselves for border duty. He refused to comment on the court-martial's makeup, but the indications are that the majority will be militia officers.

## BRIEFS IN THE NEWS OTHER EAST CAROLINA CITIES AND COUNTIES

The State shoot of the North Carolina Trapshooting Association will be held at Tarboro on July 12 and 13. Clubs in Raleigh, Charlotte, Greensboro, Durham, Asheville, Pinehurst, Louisburg, New Bern, Washington, Elizabeth City, Rocky Mount, Wilson, Morehead City and Rich Square will be represented.

A modern steamer is being constructed for the Baltimore & Carolina Steamboat Co., to ply between Baltimore and New Bern.

Cabbages are moving in heavy shipments from East Carolina. Pamlico county probably is sending the largest quantities north.

## PROPOSES USING U. S. WARSHIPS CARRY MAILS TO NEUTRALS

(By the United Press)  
Washington, May 25.—Representative P. F. Tague of Massachusetts today introduced a resolution proposing sending mails between America and neutral nations on navy ships.

## RECORDER'S POWER ENDS WITH DAY SO FAR AS PENALTIES

Judge Bond Rules That Appeals Withdrawn Because of Modified Decisions Must Go Back On Docket for Trial

No more withdrawal of appeals, changes or modifications in sentences imposed by the Recorders Court are in order, according to a ruling of Judge Bond, in the Circuit Court this morning in habeas corpus proceedings in the case of a negro who was sentenced by Recorder Wooten to the roads for six months on a vagrancy charge but turned loose by Judge Bond after counsel for the Recorder had failed to show to his satisfaction that the negro had been convicted on a similar charge before.

It developed in the course of the inquiry that many cases which had been appealed from the Recorder's Court to the Superior Court had been subsequently withdrawn. Judge Bond asked the Recorder, who was present, if such withdrawals had been because of any modification or change in the penalties imposed, and the Recorder stated that some of them had been withdrawn because of such 'bargains,' as Judge Bond termed them, whereupon Judge Bond ruled that the Recorder had no authority to change his decision in any case after the session at which such decision was rendered had adjourned. Judge Bond stated that it was his opinion, and he so ruled that each day's proceedings completed themselves so far as those cases disposed of were concerned, and that the power of the Recorder in any case so disposed of was totally gone thereafter. Judge Bond ordered the Clerk of the Court to reinstate on the docket and summon for hearing before the August term of the Superior Court every case where such withdrawal had been made unless it be shown to the Clerk that such defendant would abide by the original decision of the Recorder. Judge Bond made it clear that he did not desire any of the defendants who had innocently withdrawn their appeals because of modification of penalties to suffer therefrom or their action in withdrawing to be prejudicial at all to their interests. Solicitor Shaw called attention in behalf of the Recorder to the indefinite law under which the court is operated. This is a point that has been made before by the Solicitor and the Recorder.

The ruling of Judge Bond will only affect the cases, of course, appearing on the docket of the present term. There are nine such cases, The Free Press is informed by the Clerk of the Court. If, however, the ruling of the court was retroactive and covered the Recorder's Court proceedings since it began a very large number of cases would probably be involved. The exact ruling of Judge Bond was as follows:

"It appearing to the court in this matter that certain appeals have been withdrawn after they were docketed in this court, by defendants who had appealed from the judgments of the Recorder's Court because of subsequent understandings as to change in the punishments, the Court being of opinion that after the Recorder pronounces his judgment his jurisdiction is at an end and that he has no further control over the matter.

"It is ordered, that notice issue to each man who has withdrawn his appeal that he shall appear at the August term of this court for trial of his case, which case the clerk of this court is instructed to redocket, unless the clerk is notified by any particular defendant that he is willing to comply with the original judgment pronounced against him in the Recorder's Court."

In connection with the habeas corpus proceedings it was brought out by counsel for the negro boy that the warrant which he stated was submitted as the original served on the negro in the alleged first offense in September, 1915, was not in use by the (Continued on Page Four)

## ODDS SMALL AGAINST WAR BETWEEN THIS NATION AND KAISER

Strong Feeling In London That Sub. Commander May Cause Break

### PEACE HAS SMALL SHOW

Lloyds' Readjusts Things Following Grey's Speech. Three to One Offered That War Won't End During the Present Year

By WILLIAM E. FORREST,  
(United Press Staff Correspondent)  
London, May 25.—Responding instantly to Sir Edward Grey's declaration that peace talk will be idle conversation until Germany changes her attitude, Lloyds today made a radical shift in insurance rates against the war ending before December 31.

A few days ago the odds were even that the war would end in 1916.

Brokers today wagered three to one that the war will not end in 1916, four to one that Sweden won't join Germany within six months, and two to one that the United States and Germany won't be at war this month. The last mentioned odds reflects a strong feeling here that a German submarine commander may unexpectedly upset German-American relations, by an unwarned attack on a ship carrying Americans.

German Officials Pessimistic.  
Berlin, May 25.—German officials cherish no high hopes for an early termination of the war, despite the increasing amount of peace talk in Berlin, Washington and London papers. Particularly the Conservatives do not relish the idea of Phillip Schiedemann, the Social leader, expressed in a recent United Press interview, that Taft or Wilson would be acceptable as mediator.

Wilson Won't Act Save for All Europe.

Washington, May 25.—If President Wilson moves for peace he won't act on the behalf of any one nation nor family of nations. He will act in behalf of Europe. This viewpoint was outlined to callers today, and may constitute the keynote of Saturday's address before the League to Enforce Peace.

## LLOYD-GEORGE HAS CHARGE IN IRELAND

(By the United Press)  
London, May 25.—David Lloyd-George, minister of munitions, has been given full charge of the Irish situation, Premier Asquith today told the Commons.

## WEATHER ISN'T GOOD FOR THE COTTON CROP

Washington, May 24.—"The temperature has been too low for the best development of cotton, and its growth has been considerably retarded," says the National Weather and Crop Bulletin issued today. "Heavy rains in parts of the South have delayed replanting and the cultivation of the crop."

## CORPORATION COMMISSION AGREES FOR CHANGE OF SITE OF PASSENGER STATION FROM GORD'N STREET TO 'THE JUNCTION'

(By W. J. Martin)  
Raleigh, May 25.—The Corporation Commission today approved the change of the site of the Kinston union passenger station as agreed upon by the Chamber of Commerce and the Atlantic Coast Line and the Norfolk Southern Railroads.

An order to be issued will provide that the station be erected on the "Caswell street" site, at the present junction of the two railroads named above, instead of at the Gordon street or "Presbyterian church" site.

The change was agreed upon some weeks ago by representatives of the Chamber of Commerce and the railroads at a meeting in Kinston.

It is presumed that construction will be started in a very few weeks.

The station at Kinston, it is reported on good authority, will be the handsomest east of the main line of the A. C. L. in North Carolina.

## JURY CLEARS NEGRO BOY CHARGED WITH MURDER OF ANOTHER

David Lawson Went Free Today—Trying E. W. Mincher, Convict Guard, for Cruelty In Superior Court This Afternoon

David Lawson, a diminutive negro, charged with the murder of James Evans, a smaller boy of his race, was acquitted by a jury in Superior Court this morning.

The jury for a case against E. W. Mincher, a convict guard charged with brutality to prisoners, was secured and the case was expected to be concluded during the afternoon.

### Judge "Counsel" for Two Defendants.

Alonza Washington, colored, charged with attempted criminal assault upon a three or four-year-old girl of his race, and Herbert Coley, another negro, accused of a crime against nature, had no counsel when their cases were called Wednesday. Judge Bond, who is presiding, "represented" the defendants, not without precedent. Both got fair trials, every member of the bar attested. Both were convicted, however. Washington drawing two years, and Coley six months on the county roads.

Other cases cleared off Wednesday were: Stephen Rogers, assault with a deadly weapon, fine and costs totalling about \$50. Lizzie Greer, assault, not guilty. Will Mewhorn, retelling, appeal from the Recorder's Court, erased from docket.

### Grand Jury About Through.

The grand jury was expected to make its report this afternoon. The customary visit to the county institutions had been completed when the jurymen went into session this morning.

### Partello Case Today.

The case against Margaret Partello, charged with the murder of Harry Stein, is expected to be commenced about 4 o'clock today.

## PRESIDENT PLAYING HANDS OFF IN THE FIGHT IN SECOND

N. Y. Herald's Correspondent Makes "Discovery"—Administration Will Lend Aid to Party Nominee, Whoever He May Be

The White House is taking no part in the fight in the Second District. President Wilson very properly is playing hands off. There have been attempts since the entry into the race of Mr. Mitchell to give the impression that any fight on Mr. Kitchin at this time was frowned on by the Administration.

Such reports were sent out by Washington correspondents to various State papers.

The Greensboro News perhaps carried the first such information. The reports were discounted by the best informed people of the district, both friends of Mr. Kitchin and Mr. Mitchell. For it was realized that Mr. Wilson would not take part in a local party fight.

In this connection the New York Herald yesterday carried a statement from its Washington correspondent in which it quotes the President's private secretary, Mr. Tumulty, as denying absolutely that the President had made any comment or expected to make any on the fight now being made on Mr. Kitchin. The Herald goes further and says that the President will give cordial support to whoever may be the party nominee, but that he will not take (Continued on Page Four)

## MYSTERIOUS, YES! BUT SADDER THAN IT IS BAFFLING

At Least That Is the Impression That One Gets From a First Hand Inspection of the Scene of Mystery

A case of mystery to be sure, but a case of sadness, whose unravelling will no doubt mean the discovery that some member of the family is suffering from the mania to see things burn, is the way that some at least of those who have visited the farmhouse on Mr. H. P. Loftin's place, tenanted by Mr. T. W. Chase and family, analyze the unusual and rather mystifying series of blazes that have beset the family since last Saturday.

Every member of the family of seven or eight is naturally unstrung from the trying and nerve-racking experiences of the past four or five days. They can't account for the thirty or more blazes, which have been discovered in different parts of the house. No one else has been able to place the responsibility. Upon visiting the scene, however, one is impressed that there is nothing out of the ordinary; no supernatural influences have left their marks. It is plain that the fires are of ordinary origin in so far that matches or some other combustible substance in the hands of some unfortunate, have been instrumental in their starting. The bedding burned has caught near open windows or on the edges convenient to the doors and the quick work of one obsessed with the desire to see things burn is well within the bounds of possibilities when the surroundings are considered. A close watch will have to be kept no doubt to make the sad discovery that some of the family, heretofore unaffected by such desires, has suddenly become stricken and that the dementia must necessarily require the incarceration for safekeeping of that one, dear as he or she may be. The case is mysterious but sadder than it is baffling.

## GREAT INCREASE IN MANUFACTURES NO. CAROLINA IS SHOWN

Preliminary Statement By Census Bureau Proves Big Gains

### MANY MORE WORKING

Capital Invested In 1914 More Than Two Hundred and Fifty Millions Against Two Hundred and Seventeen In 1914

(Special to The Free Press)  
Washington, D. C., May 25.—A preliminary statement of the general results of the census of manufactures for North Carolina has been issued by Director Sam. L. Rogers, of the Bureau of the Census. Department of Commerce.

The population of North Carolina at the census of 1910 was 2,206,000, and it is estimated that it was 2,399,000 on July 1, 1914.

The summary shows a considerable increase at the census of 1914 as compared with that of 1909.

In the order of their importance, from a percentage standpoint, the increases for the several items rank as follows: Salaries, 48.4 per cent; materials, 39.5 per cent; primary horsepower, 34.3 per cent; wages 34 per cent; value of products, 33.6 per cent; salaried employees, 30.9 per cent; value added by manufacture, 26 per cent; capital, 16.9 per cent; and number of establishments 11.7 per cent.

Capital Invested.  
The capital invested, as reported in 1914, was \$253,842,000, a gain of \$36,656,000, or 16.9 per cent, over \$217,186,000 in 1909.

The cost of materials used was \$169,942,000 in 1914 against \$121,861,000 in 1909, an increase of \$48,080,000, or 39.5 per cent.

Value of Products.  
The value of products was \$289,412,000 in 1914 and \$216,656,000 in 1909, the increase being \$72,756,000 or 33.6 per cent. The average per establishment was approximately \$53,000 in 1914 and \$44,000 in 1909.

The value added by manufactures represents the difference between the cost of materials used and the value of the products manufactured from them. The value added by manufactures was \$119,470,000 in 1914 and \$94,795,000 in 1909, the increase being \$24,675,000, or 26 per cent. The value added by manufacture formed 41.3 per cent of the total value of products in 1914 and 43.8 per cent in 1909.

Salaries and Wages.  
The salaries and wages amounted to \$56,283,000 in 1914 and to \$41,259,000 in 1909, the increase being \$15,024,000, or 36.4 per cent.

The number of salaried employees was 8,541 in 1914, as compared with 6,529 in 1909, making an increase of 2,012, or 30.9 per cent.

The average number of wage earners was 136,844 in 1914 and 121,473 in 1909, the increase being 15,371, or 12.6 per cent.

## NEGRO SENTENCED TO THE ELECTRIC CHAIR

(Special to The Free Press)  
Lifton, N. C., May 25.—Jim McCall, a negro, was sentenced in Superior Court here to be electrocuted on July 15 for a criminal assault upon a six-year-old girl.

## CASEMENT IS INDICTED BY GRAND JURY TODAY

(By the United Press)  
London, May 25.—Sir Roger Casement and Daniel Bailey, an alleged confederate, were indicted for high treason by a grand jury today. Casement will go on trial June 26.