

TEN MILLIONS DAMAGE AND FIVE KNOWN DEAD IN WEST'N CAROLINA FLOODS; GOVERNOR IS MAROONED

ASHEVILLE STREETS INUNDATED; GREAT VANDERBILT ESTATE AT BILTMORE IS NOW NY PERSONS MISSING A MOUNTAIN SEA; MA

Reports of Disaster From Scores of Places In the State, South Carolina and Virginia—Dams Give Way and Lakes Spread Through Countryside—Railroad Service Practically Suspended and Wire Traffic Paralyzed—A Woman Secretary of North Carolina Chief Executive Acts as Governor While Craig Is Beyond Communication With Raleigh—Charlotte and Winston-Salem Centers of Separate Sections Submerged

Charlotte, N. C., July 17.—Grave fears are felt for a party that attempted to rescue twenty men engulfed in Catawba river when a bridge went down. The boat carrying the rescuers is reported to have capsized. Railroad and Wire Traffic Completely Paralyzed. Washington, July 17.—The Southern Railway today practically abandoned all traffic South of Washington.

Ten million dollars damage, five known killed, hundreds injured and missing, railroad and wire traffic paralyzed and demoralized, were the results of the floods sweeping the Carolinas and Virginia. Asheville and Biltmore were the hardest hit. The French Broad river at the former point had broken from its course, flooding factories and homes. Two are known to have been drowned attempting to get into the upper stories of the Glenn Rock hotel.

Mrs. Vanderbilt and Daughter Brave Flood to Supervise Relief. Asheville, July 17.—The floods have left five hundred homeless and enrolled Mrs. George W. Vanderbilt and daughter Cornelia among the heroines. They are personally in charge of the rescue work on their great estate. Many times today they waded through water to their waists to direct relief measures. Governor's Secretary Acting Governor; Craig Marooned. Raleigh, July 17.—With terrible flood conditions in Asheville, Charlotte and Salisbury districts, it is impossible to communicate with Governor Craig, who is marooned in Asheville. His private secretary, Miss May F. Jones, is acting as Governor, disposing of important immediate matters.

Damage Ten Millions. Asheville, July 16.—Five known dead, with a probability of the number being increased to eight, the whole lower section of the city under water, Biltmore flooded to the second stories of the houses, hundreds of people homeless, a hundred houses washed away, property damage now amounting to \$10,000,000 and a city without light or power, is the net total taken by a great flood which swept this section at an early hour this morning. The city is isolated from the outside world, save for wire service, and the damage in the surrounding towns must bring the total up to more than even the huge figures mentioned above. Railroad service is suspended and the tunnel at Ridgecrest is caved in at two places. The flood was caused by a cloudburst and the bursting of the dams confining the three artificial lakes at Hendersonville.

Five Known Dead. The flood is the worst in the history of Asheville or Western North Carolina. Rising suddenly at an early hour this morning, the waters swept through Biltmore and the lower section of Asheville, drowning

THE RURAL CREDITS BILL SIGNED TODAY; PRESIDENT PLEASD

(By the United Press) Washington, July 17.—Accompanying the act with a speech, paying high tribute to the measure, the President today signed the Rural Credits Bill, providing a system to lend on mortgage to banks and handle long-time mortgage loans of farmers.

BULLETINS

(By the United Press) MORE RUSSIANS IN WEST. Brest, France, July 17.—Another convoy of Russian troops landed today, making six convoys or about thirty thousand men altogether. FRENCH CLAIM THEY GAIN AT VERDUN. Paris, July 17.—The Russian troops in action on the French Champagne front today successfully counter-attacked, inflicting heavy losses on the Germans. The French continue to progress on the Verdun front.

CHORUS OF A THOUSAND. St. Paul, Minn., July 17.—A chorus of 1,000 voices, not one of which ever raised its clarion tone to the strains of "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here," will lead the Prohibitionists' National Convention in song when it opens here tomorrow. More than twenty thousand song books of the convention have been scattered throughout the country and Prohibitionists from every State have learned the list. Hundreds of auto parties are on their way into the city today from so far as 3,000 miles distant, holding impromptu prohibition song services along the route.

The chorus will be led by Rollin M. Pease of St. Paul who, though now a professional singer, has been law clerk, mine, tramp, rancher, machinist and builder. He wrote many of the convention songs. Among the songs are such as these: Our Nation's Going Dry, Ring Out Wild Bells, Katie Is Cashing My Check, Down In the Licensed Saloon, and several dozen more like that. FIVEM' R shrdlu atatshrdlu atat

TROOPS NURSE SORE ARMS AT CAMP GLENN. Anti-typhoid vaccination has agitated many sore arms among the soldiers at Camp Glenn. Practically every man of the more than 3,000 there has received the treatment. A large per cent. of the infantrymen and troopers was rendered temporarily unfit for duty last week. The recent storm blew up much sand at the reservation, and that made the generally very comfortable camp less pleasant.

MAN KILLED, GIRL HURT IN AUTO-TRAIN SMASHUP AT RALEIGH. Raleigh, July 17.—Rex E. Sexton of Cardenas was killed and Miss Herbie Alston of Raeford was injured when a Southern passenger train struck an automobile in which they were riding at the Fayetteville street crossing here late yesterday. The girl will recover. The crossing gates are said not to have been closed, and the autoists failed to heed cries of man who saw that a collision was inevitable if Sexton tried to cross the track.

WAR DEPT. OFFICIAL SAYS VILLA IS DEAD; ARMY WILL RETURN

(By the United Press) Washington, July 17.—Villa is dead and the National Guard will be back home in three months, according to a high War Department official.

18 DEDICATE highway. (By the United Press) Durango, Colo., July 17.—Atop the great Continental Divide, 10,000 feet above sea level, the new Colorado State highway across the backbone of the American continent, from South Fork to Pagosa Springs, was formally dedicated today. Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona will profit by the new avenue of communication opened into the San Luis valley hereby. It is also a wonderful scenic route.

18 CASEMENT APEAL. (By the United Press) London, July 17.—Six black robed judges are sitting here today to hear Sir Roger Casement's appeal for a new trial. Should the judges rule that Sir Roger's conviction on the charge of giving aid and comfort to England's enemies by stirring up the Irish rebellion was just, the Irishman must hang. Sir Roger, one of the most brilliant men ever in the King's service, whose work among the colonies brought him a title and the royal favor, recently was found guilty of high treason. His defense was that he was working in the interest of Ireland's sovereignty, but not against England.

Although a statement has been communicated from the American Government, through Ambassador Page, informing the British Government that much interest is taken in the disposition of Sir Roger's case, nothing more nearly approaching a formal appeal for clemency could with diplomatic propriety be vouchsafed. The judges may not announce their decision today.

D'UTSCHLAND PLANS TO LEAVE TUESDAY, BALTIMORE REPORT

(By CARL GROAT) (United Press Staff Correspondent) Baltimore, Md., July 17.—The Deutschland now plans to leave here tomorrow, a member of the crew today told the United Press. Loading is expected to be finished tomorrow. Captain Koenig today said he expected the submarine Bremen here or at New York in a few days.

BRIEFS IN THE NEWS OTHER EAST CAROLINA TOWNS AND COUNTIES

Cawley Gregory and Jim Hawkins, negro convicts, made their escape from a Pitt county stockade near Farmville and went to Greenville, at which place they were lost by pursuing officers. Several hours later they were recaptured. Dave Blow, a Washington dorky, is in serious condition as the result of being scalded by his wife. The woman found Blow in the home of another negro, persuaded him to return to their dwelling and then, after he had fallen asleep, heated a tub of water to the boiling stage and poured it over him. Blow's wife is in jail.

Old seafarers in East Carolina recall a visit to the waters off Hatteras and Portsmouth more than a score of years ago by large schools of man-eating sharks, evidently from the West Indian seas. The creatures stayed only a few days or weeks, betrayed everywhere by the telltale dorsal fins, and there was no casualty, it is believed, other than the rumored loss of a leg by a boy-bather.

FIREMEN OF STATE GATHER AT RALEIGH FOR ANNUAL MEET'G

Hundreds of Volunteers Flocking to Capital City for Convention and Tournament—Kinston Well Represented (Special to The Free Press) Raleigh, July 17.—Firemen are gathering here from all parts of North Carolina to attend the annual convention and tournament of the State Volunteer Association. Raleigh, Charlotte, Durham, Winston-Salem and Wilmington are cities with paid departments represented. They will have no part in the tournament. Capt. J. D' McNeill of Fayetteville, for many years the president, will be in the chair at the convention, the first business session of which will be held at 8 o'clock tonight.

The local department, paid, will give an exhibition run at 7:30 p. m. Several hundred firemen and friends will be here by tonight. Practically every city and town in the State will be represented. Kinston has two racing teams, two wagons and two horses here. Among Sunday's arrivals were the following from Kinston: T. J. Harper, June Gray, E. A. Faulkner, E. B. Lanier, S. V. Westbrook, P. O. Baker, Vance Jackson and others. Charged With Larceny. In jail this morning was Jonas Williams, colored, charged with larceny of underwear and a wrench from Toke Williams, another negro. The two are not related. The alleged theft is said to have occurred at the Fair Grounds.

18 KITCHENER (By the United Press) London, July 17.—A look at the late Lord Kitchener's coat-of-arms today disclosed that it sported a regular menagerie, including an elephant, a camel, agnu, a stag, an eagle, a lion and three bustards, all denizens of countries in which K. had served his King.

TO TRY SLAYER OF TERRY FOR MURDER

Greensboro, July 16.—Jerry A. Terry, who last night shot and fatally wounded John R. Stewart, was brought to Greensboro at an early hour this morning and lodged in jail. Stewart died without having regained consciousness, having lived about four hours from the time he was shot. Terry will be tried for first degree murder at the September term of court. After he shot Stewart Terry went home and fired two shots at his own head. One scalp wound was inflicted which is not serious. There had been trouble between the two men for some time.

NEGRO BEATS BROTH'R IN NORTH TO FINISH

Dr. Charles H. Bynum, a colored physician of North street, has made the interesting discovery that Southern negroes are smarter than their brethren in the North. He is rather proud of the fact. The difference is about this, he says: In the North, left upon their own resources, with something expected of them, they do not materialize so well. In the South, with that perfect understanding between the races which the Northern white man cannot understand, the colored man is expected to work and all of the advice that he gets from the white man is of that neighborly kind which encourages and does not condemn if he should fail. Dr. Bynum says that of his classmates at Lincoln University, Pa., where he was educated, practically all of the Southern colored men went to work to make their lives successful, while the reverse was the case with the Northern negroes. "They looked for summer jobs." It is a fact, says the physician, that most of the 30 colored physicians in Philadelphia and most of the other professional men of the race there and in other cities where he has been, are from the South.



PAULINE FREDERICK, Famous Player-Paramount Star (Subscribe to THE FREE PRESS)

ALLIES GAIN ON NEARLY EVERY FRONT IN THE GENERAL OFFENSIVE; KAIS'R SAW HIS TROOPS FALL BACK BEFORE THE BRITISH

Teutons Fought Like Demons to Hold Ground, But Were Unsuccessful—Central Powers Using Every Means Possible to Check the Russians—Rallying Troops to Defend Kovel—Great Slav Machine Can't Be Stalled—German Press Getting More Friendly to Chancellor—Russians Have Lost Quarter Million Men This Month, Said—More Details of Saturday Night's Fighting in West Reach British Capital (By William Phillip Simms) Petrograd, July 17.—Profoundly impressed with the steady Russian advances, the Germans are massing enormous forces before Kovel, bringing up every available reserve and hoping to stall the Russian mowing machine. Kovel's fall would be a staggering blow to the Central Powers, completing the Allies' disrupting plans. The Russians are amply supplied with ammunition. Great reinforcements of Cossacks, Urals and Siberians are arriving at the front. Germans Still Believe They'll Win. (By Carl W. Ackerman) Berlin, July 17.—Leading German newspapers are now rallying to the support of Chancellor Bethmann-Holweig, who has been under attack by advocates of an unrestricted submarine campaign. They deny that his peace discussions have weakened Germany and reassert confidence that the Allied offensive will be defeated, though it is realized the fighting is not over by far. The Russian losses since July 1 have been over 262,000, a semi-official news agency today announced. They include nearly fifteen thousand officers, of whom seventeen were generals. Emperor Saw Germans Retreat. (By Edward L. Keen) London, July 17.—The Kaiser was at the Somme front when the Germans retreated under the battering British blows Saturday night. Dispatches from the front today brought new details of the successful attack. The fighting was most vicious in character. In some instances the Germans fought with wolf-like ferocity in deep dugouts, where they stood seeing only each other's eyes, with knives and bombs and primitively, with their fists. Germany Admits Another Loss. Berlin, July 17.—The British have penetrated Ovillers Wood, in a resumption of the great Allied offensive, the war office today admitted. Took Many Teutons Prisoners Sunday. Petrograd, July 17.—About thirteen thousand prisoners were captured by the Russians in Sunday's fighting in Volhynia, the war office today announced. They included 314 officers and over 12,000 men. The Slavs also took 30 guns, a great number of machine guns and other materials.

THIS PART OF THE COUNTRY IS NOT IN PATH SUMMER GALES "This is the chosen country." Col. Henry Shaw this morning told of the explanation of Dr. Richard Lewis of the lack of destructive storms in this part of North Carolina, eliminating the equinoctial gales which seem to above by no set rules and the wintertime nor'easters and nor'westers which break their violence on the projecting coast of North Carolina. Col. Shaw was discussing the West Carolina floods and the storms which caused them. Dr. Lewis said it is the tendency of hurricanes making up in the warm seas to seek cool temperatures. Most Gulf gales head straight north, and the same is true of the Caribbean howlers. East Carolina is out of their track. For the storm that hits Charleston, traveling in a straight line, passes overland maybe a hundred miles or more to the west of this section, which is on a big peninsula running out into the sea. Atlantic storms affect this section, after being broken up pretty well on the coast, but Gulf and Caribbean storms very seldom reach it.

ertain its 20,000 employes and their families in commemoration of the semi-centennial of the discovery of the rich property. Gold, silver and bronze medals were presented to 1,355 veteran employes by President Agassiz, 163 of whom have worked for the company over 40 years. Timothy O'Shea, who worked the first pit of the mine 50 years and six months ago, refuses to retire on his pension. Calumet, Mich., July 16.—The biggest and richest copper mine in the world, the Calumet and Hecla, suspended business today despite the enormous war boom business that is keeping all mines on the jump, to en-