

GENERAL GAIEA DESTROYS THIRD BOSHEVIK ARMY AMERICA'S NAVY TO BE SUPERIOR TO OTHER NATIONS

MUCH DISCUSSION STILL PREVAILS OVER THINGS TO HELP SALISBURY

Some Writers Suggest Things That Would Be Helpful During the Year—Several Opinions That Commission Form is Proper Thing, Others Suggest Other Things We Should Strive for During the Year—Negroes Desire Better School Housing.

Out of all this discussion, only a small portion of which is carried on in these columns, the people of Salisbury may be directed to either change their form of city government or decide that a change is not desirable and adhere to the present form. In any event the much talk has not been to no purpose, and good will finally come out of it. It is an open question whether or not this city wants commission form of government, it is an open question whether we would be improved, but the facts are being discussed and out of the multiplicity of talk, argument pro and con—"for and agin'" will result in arriving at the proper place to get off.

Let us again remind the people engaged in thinking of "what is best for the city during the year" that there are other matters than city government to discuss. We have need of a good many things that will help us, tend to improve the city and make it a more desirable place in which to live and to invite good people and investment.

Salisbury needs more houses, that many people may move in and occupy them. There has been little building the past two years—and there was good reason too. But now these hindering conditions will steadily pass away and the way will open for building and improving. So that this question is one to consider.

Street paving has been almost at a standstill for some months, there have been, no doubt, good and sufficient reasons. Why not resume this good work? The chamber of commerce has been neglected for months, it is not our duty during the year to rally to this organization and make it more helpful? There are so many ways we can help Salisbury during the coming year. Let us discuss these matters and under full steam ahead make 1919, the banner year for this city and Rowan county.

Coming now down to reference to the replies since the publication of yesterday we find several "in hand." First, there is one from W. C. Maupin, who says he favors commission government and wants it pushed now. Referring to Commission form, Mr. Maupin says: "It has proven a success at other places, so it should prove a success in Salisbury. Most any form would be preferable to the one we have."

Mr. Robertson Writes Favorable to Commission Form. Here is a letter from Mr. J. H. Robertson, local manager of the N. C. Public Service Company. He says: "I wish to say that I most heartily favor a change in city government from the aldermanic to the Commission form."

"Judging from the experience other cities have had with the Commission form, it seems to me that this is the proper form of government for a city of our size. The government of the city should be in the hands of men who make it their sole business to look after the needs of and transact business for the city. In this form of government where meetings of commissioners is held every day it is much easier to have a definite answer within a short while to any proposition which might come up, where as under our present system, it would probably take several months longer to have a matter dis-

posed of. I am not in a position to say when the proper time to push this matter would be.

"I think one of the most helpful things for the city that we could do, would be the establishment of a free bridge across the Yadkin river near Spencer. This matter has been discussed several times and I can see no more opportune time than the present for some definite action in this matter."

"I think that our city is now sufficiently large to support two or three first-class apartment houses and I think at least one should be built this year."

The Only Kind to Have, Says J. C. Deaton.

Register of Deeds J. C. Deaton thinks the Commission form is the only one to have. Mr. Deaton says:

"I have been in a number of cities which have the commission form of government and the people generally were more than pleased. In my opinion it is the only kind of city government."

New Citizen Objects a Few Thoughts. A citizen who recently came to Salisbury contributes the following to this discussion:

"In response to your editorial in the last issue, allow me to make a few remarks in regard to what should be done for Salisbury. I lived in a town eight years that gained in population from 19,000 to 35,000, and in the first six years it reached 26,000, the last two of the eight, it gained 9,000. Here are the steps it took: It had a board of trade, 13 in number, for the first six years, and increased it to 500 at the beginning of the last two years, making every member an active one, working in conjunction with the municipal officials. They made laws and rules to govern the city in a certain number of blocks from the square. If a lot be vacant they demanded a house on it, if the owner was not able to build, he was forced to sell to some one who was bound to build in a certain length of time. No man was allowed but 100 foot frontage for a resident, unless it cost over \$50,000 then allowed 200. Any street that was blocked by property of an individual, said property was condemned by the city and eight distinguished men as a committee fixed the price on the same. They adjusted the rent for the entire city at a certain per cent, based on the cost of the building. Men were forced to tear down old buildings and replace them by new ones. They would organize capital and start new industry that would never have gotten together otherwise. Lots of real estate changed hands through them, they fished after floating capital and offered all inducements they could. They would find a man who had a few hundred dollars to loan and some other could tell of another and so on until it could all amount to enough to organize a company and up would spring a new industry. What is the matter with Salisbury? It has the railroad facilities, but there is Mr. Smith, he owns those three vacant lots and a five acre garden behind. He also owns five vacant lots over here on a certain street. The house is a very nice old colonial one, but get busy and notify Mr. Smith he is only allowed 100 feet and must place five buildings on the five lots on the other streets, or sell. Then have your board of trade consisting of 500 members of your own citizens gathering this capital, making transfers, and organizing companies and in two years' time with this in full force Salisbury will be increased thousands and you will be surprised at what can be done."

Mr. McCall Mentions a Number of "Good Things" for the Year. Mr. E. D. McCall takes the time to set forth several things that we should give attention to during the year in which we have entered. Mr. McCall's letter should be interesting to all of us. It follows:

"Whether Salisbury has a Commission form or City Manager or whether it remains under the present form of government, I think a whole time man should be in charge of the city's affairs and give his time to the administration, improvement and betterment of civic conditions, and act as chairman and active representative of the chamber of commerce, thus combining the two offices. The interests

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GEN. GAIEA WHIPS BOLSHEVIK ARMY

Captures Perm in the Ural Mountains and Takes 31,000 Prisoners and Much Material.

LENINE SPECIAL ARMORED TRAIN ALSO IS TAKEN

Five Thousand Railway Cars, Field and Machine Guns, Armored Trains, Horses Taken.

(By Associated Press.)

Vladivostok, Monday, Dec. 30.—In capturing Perm in the Ural mountains General Gaiea at the head of the Czech-Slovak and Siberian forces virtually destroyed the Bolsheviki third army from which he took 31,000 prisoners.

General Gaiea's troops also captured an armored train from which Nicholas Lenine himself escaped but several members of his party were taken prisoners.

In addition to the 31,000 prisoners reported General Gaiea captured 5,000 railway cars, 120 field guns, 1,000 machine guns, 30 automobiles, an entire wagon transport, several armored trains and several thousand horses.

WEST POINT CADET SUICIDES

West Point, N. Y., Jan. 2.—Cadet Stephen Bird, of Galveston, Texas, died last night in the academy hospital, the victim of a self-inflicted wound.

While alone in his room last evening he was suddenly suffering from a temporary mental derangement, officials of the academy said, Bird, who was 19 years old, shot himself through the breast.

HOUSE RESORTS TO A SPECIAL RULE

To Force the War Revenue Bill to a Conference Without Holding It Up For Debate—Few Scattering Negative Votes.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Jan. 2.—House leaders resorted to special rule today to force the war revenue bill to conference without holding it up for debate on demands for votes on session of Senate amendment.

The rule was unanimously reported by the rules committee and was adopted without roll call and only a few scattering negative votes.

Congress will begin work on the bill at once and it is conceded it will have a long tack ahead. The senate virtually rewrote the measure after it passed the House, reducing the total levies in 1919 to about six billion dollars and adding a provision for levies aggregating four billion dollars in 1920.

STATE JOURNAL SUSPENDS

Weekly Paper Owned by Alex Fields and Leased by W. T. Bost Closes and Exist.

(By Associated Press.)

Raleigh, Jan. 2.—The State Journal, a weekly newspaper published here and owned by J. A. Fields, now of Pennsylvania, and leased by W. T. Bost, suspended publication this week, pending arrangements for another management.

It is announced that Mr. Bost's lease has expired and Col. Field's duties keep him with the emergency fleet corporation in Philadelphia.

The paper was founded by Mr. Field and R. F. Beasley in 1913.

If you want to sell that car, put the facts about it into a classified ad.

FORD AUTO STOCK PAYS 200 PER CENT

Four Million Dollars to Be Distributed Between Seven Stockholders (Within the Next 30 Days.)

(By Associated Press.)

Detroit, Mich., Jan. 2.—A 200 per cent dividend was declared by the directors of the Ford Motor company at the annual meeting December 31, it was announced here this afternoon. The dividend which represents a disbursement of \$4,000,000 among seven stockholders is payable 100 per cent January 1 and 100 per cent February 1.

INCREASE NUMBER PEACE DELEGATES

Likely That the Great Nations Will Have More Than Five Representatives Each.

ADDITIONS WOULD TAKE UP ONLY SPECIAL MATTERS

Movement for Increase in Number of Delegates Launched by Foreign Secretary Balfour.

(By Associated Press.)

Paris, Jan. 2.—The number of delegates representing each of the great nations at the coming peace conference is likely to be increased beyond five, the number previously considered probable, by the inclusion of several delegates who may exchange places with the others, taking part in the conference only when special subjects upon which they are authority are being considered.

British Foreign Secretary Balfour favors increasing the number of representatives and his proposition appears to be receiving favorable consideration.

Mr. Balfour made his desire known during a conference with Colonel House Tuesday.

ALLIED MEMBERS HOLD CONFERENCE

Representatives of the Allies Will Talk Over Matters Immediately Upon Return of Clemenceau to Paris.

(By Associated Press.)

Paris, Jan. 2.—Conversation among the representatives of the allies will begin at the French foreign office immediately upon the return to Paris of Premier Clemenceau which is expected to be about January 6 or 7.

The premier is taking a brief rest in La Vendee. President Wilson is expected back in Paris at the beginning of next week, while Premier Lloyd George will arrive Saturday.

NORTHERN PACIFIC STILL IN DANGER

Constant Pounding of Seas Against The American Transport Northern Pacific Island Drives Vessel Hard on Sands. Troops Not Removed.

(By Associated Press.)

New York, Jan. 2.—The constant pounding of the seas against the American transport Northern Pacific, stranded on Fire Island since 3:30 o'clock Wednesday morning, has driven the ship higher on the beach during the forenoon, swinging her bow so she is only 250 yards from shore.

The waves are heavier than those which wedged her tight by in the sandbar yesterday and are breaking over the transport with a stiff wind blowing unfavorably from the south-west.

So long as these conditions prevail navy officials here said no attempt would be made to put ashore or transfer to other vessels the 3,000 troops, civilians and navy crews who sailed on the transport from France Christmas Day.

At 9 o'clock this morning the opinion was expressed that there was little prospect of the troops being removed until late in the day. The vessel has worked so far ashore that there is doubt she can be floated even with a clam sea.

Unsuccessful Attempt to Drag Ship.

New York, Jan. 2.—After an unsuccessful attempt had been made to drag the American transport Northern Pacific from the sand bar on which she grounded near Fire Island Wednesday morning, navy officials here announced plans for removing 2,450 troops to vessels standing by at 2 o'clock this afternoon after weather conditions became favorable.

Number of Soldiers Taken Off. Fire Island, Jan. 2.—Three officers and one soldier, all wounded, were landed just before noon today from the transport Northern Pacific, stranded off Fire Island. They came ashore in a coast guard boat. Four more life boats filled with soldiers arrived from the Northern Pacific soon afterward, while four other boats, all belonging to the transport and filled with members of the crew, left the ship for outlying rescue ships. As

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POLAND IN DESPAIR OWING TO INVASION

Presence of Bolsheviki Troops and Apparent Indifference of Allies Causing Unrest.

TELEGRAMS SENT BEGGING ALLIED INTERVENTION

Situation is Made More Deploable on Account of Internal Troubles and Army Return Urged.

(By Associated Press.)

London, Jan. 2.—Poland is in despair owing to the invasion of Bolsheviki troops and the apparent indifference of the western powers to the plight of the country, according to a Warsaw dispatch to the Mail.

"Telegrams are being sent begging intervention by the allies," the dispatch states, "but no reply comes. The Poles admit the immensity of the numerous problems absorbing the allies but complain they do not receive the least sign of attention or a word of guidance."

After dealing with the Bolsheviki menace to Lemberg, Vilna and other places the correspondent says the situation is made worse by internal disorders in Poland. Factories in all industrial towns have been destroyed by the Germans and thousands of Poles sent to Germany during the war are returning to find there is no employment for them. They are taking the law in their own hands, it is said, and terrorizing their former employers compelling them to give them money.

Lodz is in the hands of the red guards. The correspondent concludes by urging the immediate return of the Polish army from France.

WOMEN SUFFS BURN WATCH-FIRE

Build Fire in Wash Tub in Front of White House and Say It Will Burn Until Senate Acts Favorably on Woman Suffrage Resolution.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Jan. 2.—Several members of the National Woman's Party, wearing seaman's slickers, stood in a living room on the sidewalk before the White House today to keep burning in a metal wash tub their "watch fire" which they say will burn until she senate acts favorably on the woman suffrage amendment.

Relays of women had attended the fire since it was lighted in the tub last night after a crowd of citizens and men in uniform had extinguished one started in a decorative urn in Lafayette square.

Half a dozen women arrested during the disturbance and released without bond did not appear in police court this morning.

SCHOOL OPENS NEXT MONDAY

After Long Close Down Period the Public Schools Will Resume January 6.

The public schools will open Monday, the 6th. Announcement is officially made that the city schools will again get down to study Monday, the enforced vacation having extended over a period of several weeks, being the second time during the fall term that the influenza situation forced a closing of the schools, pupils and teachers alike having been smitten with the disease.

The bells will ring Monday at the usual hour and the boys and girls will take up their march to the school house for a long, hard, steady pull of several months.

ARMY MARCHING ON CITY OF BERLIN

Polish Troops to the Number of Thirty Thousand Said to Be Advancing on German Capital.

(By Associated Press.)

Copenhagen, Jan. 2.—A Polish army of 30,000 men is marching on Berlin according to a dispatch received here quoting rumors at the German capital.

Gustave Noske, member of the Ebert cabinet in charge of military affairs, is said to have ordered the Fifth German division to meet the Poles.

MASTER MECHANICS HOLD A MEETING

Representatives of Eastern District Met With Master Mechanic McBride.

MR. BUNCH GOES TO ALA. UNDER PROMOTION

Well Known Spencer Man Gets a Deserved Promotion—Local and Personal Happenings.

(By A. W. Hicks)

Spencer, Jan. 2.—The Master Mechanics of the Northern and Eastern Districts of the Southern Railway under Superintendent of Motive Power E. C. Sasser held a get together meeting with Master Mechanic E. McBride in Spencer Monday with all points represented. While the business transacted was routine the meeting was one of much interest. The work of the past year on the Southern Railway system was reviewed and the line up for the new year was gone over in detail, the various officials taking a keen interest in the immense task before the railroads of the country. The lines under Supt. Sasser include also the C. C. & O., G. N. W., D. & W. and C. & O. Those in attendance included the following master mechanics, in addition to Mr. Sasser who presided: E. McBride, Spencer; E. M. Sweetman, Knoxville; George Akana, Atlanta; J. H. Fetner, Columbia; J. S. Brewer, Charleston; E. Fuller, Alexandria; J. J. Robinson, Richmond; C. F. Shull, Erwin, Tenn., and Fred Simpson, Bristol.

An interesting feature of the meeting was a dinner given by Supt. of Motive Power Sasser in his private car. This was a sumptuous affair and in thorough keeping with the holiday season and was greatly enjoyed by the master mechanics.

Effective January 1st, Mr. C. L. Bunch, for many years shop superintendent for the Southern at Spencer, the same company at Sheffield, Ala. This change came as a promotion for Mr. Bunch, who has made a good record with the Southern at Spencer. He is regarded by his superior officers as a good man and the promotion was a deserved one. The entire force at Spencer regret to see him leave here but are glad to see him in a nice promotion.

To fill the vacancy caused by the transfer of Mr. Bunch Mr. M. D. Stewart, for some years erecting shop foreman at Spencer, was promoted to shop superintendent. He is a Spencer man, was made in Spencer shops and has a host of friends who will be pleased at his promotion. Still another change was made when Mr. C. H. Summers, for a long time the efficient tool room foreman, was appointed erecting shop foreman and has already entered upon his new duties. Mr. W. E. Shuping was also made tool room foreman and has resumed the duties of this position.

It was stated today at the Southern shops that all these promotions are in keeping with the general policy of the Southern Railway to promote its own men and make its own foremen.

The employees on Spencer yard presented General Yard Master G. S. Perkins with a handsome chest of silver on December 25th as a token of their high esteem for him. In accepting the gift Mr. Perkins expressed himself as being gratified in as much as the gift expressed the good will of the terminal employees toward him and that they were all his friends and that it was not so much the value of the gift which he had received but that he appreciated far more the spirit in which it was given and their daily co-operation and friendship, and wishing each one a Merry Xmas and Prosperous New Year and that all were working for the one end which is to advance the interests of the company with which we are all associated.

Spencer is getting ready for an interesting basket ball game with High Point here Friday night. The local team is one of the strongest ever set up by the Spencer schools and a fine game is expected.

The Spencer graded schools opened Monday after several weeks recess caused by the influenza. The attendance is still affected considerably by the disease but is increasing daily.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy C. Lane have returned from Princeton where they were called on account of the death during the holidays of Mrs. Mariah Taylor, mother of Mrs. Lane. She was 70 years old and had been ill for several weeks during which time Mrs. Lane had been with her. She

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AMERICA'S NAVY TO BE SUPERIOR

Our Fighting Ships to Surpass Those of Any Other Nation Owing to Electric Machinery.

WONDERFUL FEATS OF THE DREADNAUGHT N. MEXICO

Developed More Than 31,000 H. P.—Made Over 21 Knots Hour With Surplus Displacement.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Jan. 2.—America's capital fighting ships of the future will be superior to those of other nations because of the electrically driven machinery, Secretary Daniels told the house naval committee today in disclosing remarkable results attained by the new dreadnaught New Mexico, equipped with electric drive which will be a feature of all the big ships authorized since 1916.

The New Mexico's turbo-electric machinery was designed to develop 26,500 horse power at full speed and give the ship a speed of 21 knots. "She actually developed more than 31,000 horse power," Mr. Daniels said, "and maintained for four hours a speed of 21.4 knots and this when the ship was running a displacement of 1,000 tons greater than her design called for."

SYMPATHETIC MESSAGE COME FROM FRANCE

Profound Sympathy and Gratitude to American Families Whose Sons Fell On French Soil—Graves As Sacred As Those of French Troops.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Jan. 2.—The state department made public today the following message, under date of January 1st, received from the French government.

"The French government wishes to express its profound sympathy and gratitude to the American families whose sons met a glorious death on French soil during the war. It wishes to share in their mourning. The graves of these young soldiers of America are as sacred in our eyes as are those of their French comrades and it will take the necessary measures to provide that they shall be respected and tended with reverence and patriotic care."

WEEKS SCORES THE WAR DEPARTMENT

Blames It for Errors and Delays in Reporting Casualties Among Overseas Troops—Letters of Wounded Soldiers Delayed.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Jan. 2.—The war department was sharply criticized in the senate today by Senator Weeks, of Massachusetts, Republican, for delays and errors in compiling casualties among the expeditionary forces and for failure to co-operate with the Red Cross in the matter of forwarding letters from wounded soldiers to relatives in this country.

Senator Weeks declared the war department's information concerning casualties often had been wrong. It also was worth nothing, the senator continued, that in sending reports of casualties to families the department simply stated that the individual had been killed or wounded without further explanation and so far as he knew the department had no other information on the subject.

If you ought to be earning more money, and can do some useful work well, "say your say" in the classified columns.

UNSEASONABLY LOW TEMPERATURE DUE

Weather Man at Washington Says Cold Weather Will Overpass Nearly All Parts of Country East of Mississippi With 36 Hours.

Washington, Jan. 2.—Cold weather will overpass nearly all parts of the country east of the Mississippi river during the next 36 hours, with unseasonably low temperatures in Tennessee and the East Gulf States and after tonight in the Atlantic States, according to the weather bureau's general forecast today.

There will be rain, probably changing to snow, in the Middle Atlantic and rain tonight and Friday in the South Atlantic States.

FORMER EMPEROR SERIOUSLY SICK

Bill Hohenzollern Said to Be Confined to His Room and Only Empress and Specialist and Attendants Permitted to See Him.

(By Associated Press.)

Amsterdam, Jan. 2.—William Hohenzollern, the former German emperor, is very ill, according to advices from Amerongen. He cannot leave his room, it is said, and is suffering from a bad cold. It is stated he has high fever.

An imminent specialist from Utrecht is in constant attendance and only the former empress, the specialist and two attendants are permitted to enter his room, it is reported.