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W. S. FALLIS STATE HIGHWAY ENGINEER

COMMISSION ORGANIZES ACCORDING TO PROVISIONS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

LATE STATE CAPITOL NEWS

Review of the Latest News Gathered Around the State Capitol That Will Be of Interest to Our Readers Over North Carolina.

Raleigh.
The State Highway Commission, formally organized here under the provisions of the special act of the recent Legislature that provides \$10,000 a year for the operations of the commission, selected W. S. Fallis of Henderson as state highway engineer, in charge of the highway work of the state under the direction of the commission. Quarters for this new division of state work will be equipped at once and the work of the commission got under way.

Mr. Fallis is an experienced highway engineer who has had special service in many sections of the state and has been for a long while closely identified with North Carolina highway construction. He built the famous highways in Franklin, Youngsboro and Leeville sections of Vance county, and has given expert assistance in road building in Columbus, Wilson, Cherokee, Edgecombe, Henderson, Granville, Polk, Rockingham, Onslow, New Hanover, Durham and other counties.

The work that the commission will undertake through its new highway engineer is co-operation with counties in the way of expert assistance in road building. There are already 20 counties that have "spoken" for such assistance. Assistant engineers are to be called into the service as required to meet the demands made upon the new division.

The organization of the commission was perfected with the designation of Governor Craig as the chairman and Col. Benehan Cameron as chairman pro tem and active head of the commission. Dr. Joseph Hyde Pratt as secretary, and E. C. Duncan, W. C. Hildrick and Doctor Pratt as special advisory committee to co-operate with the engineer in the details of the work. The other members of the commission are Guy V. Roberts and Prof. T. F. Hickerson, the latter being the member of the engineering department of the State University. Prof. M. H. Stacy was named for this place on the commission, but he could not serve and Professor Hickerson was named in his stead.

Blair Named Deputy Collector.

Statesville.—Collector A. D. Watts, appointed Mr. R. Kent Blair, a druggist of Charlotte, as a traveling deputy collector for the Fifth District of North Carolina, this position recently having been provided for on account of the Harrison anti-narcotic law. The compensation will be \$1,600 per annum and the traveling expenses, \$300. Mr. Blair will be assigned to duty under Revenue Agent Chapman, with headquarters at Greensboro, and will probably have as his territory, Western North Carolina. There were numerous applications for this position, but the job required a man with certain knowledge of drugs, etc., therefore it was necessary that the job hunt the man instead of the man hunting the job. Mr. Blair was recommended as a splendid man and one who would be able to handle the work required in a satisfactory manner.

Name Mt. Mitchell Commission.

Governor Craig announces the appointment of the special commission provided by the recent legislature to purchase the summit of Mt. Mitchell to preserve its native forest as a public park. There is an appropriation of \$25,000 for the purpose. The commission consists of G. T. Deaton, of Green Mountain; W. F. Watson and M. C. Honeycutt, of Burnsville; Wilson Hensley, of Ball Creek, and T. Edgar Blackstock, of Asheville.

Enlarges Report of Markets.

The division of markets, state department of agriculture, has made a new departure in adding to its weekly market report of prices in all sections of the state such produce as grain, butter, eggs, beans and cow peas. The weekly report shows prices of eggs on the larger markets 20 cents and prices as low as 12 in some of the small and more remote markets. Butter ranged from 25 to 35 cents for North Carolina creamery butter; cow peas \$1.50 to \$2; soy beans \$1.50 to \$2.30; corn around \$1 per bushel.

Many Applications for Clerkship.

Numbers of applications have come into Secretary of State Bryan Grimes for the state grant clerkship made vacant by the sad death of George W. Norwood. However, it is likely that there will be no appointment to this vacancy until Corporation Clerk W. S. Wilson decides whether he will accept the legislative librarianship tendered him by the State Historical Commission. If he accepts the new place then Mr. Joseph E. Sawyer, now automobile clerk in the Department of State, will be promoted to the place.

Make Survey of Beef Cattle.

The North Carolina Beef Breeders and Feeders' Association has a plan to make a Beef Cattle Survey of the state and to this end it will make use of the rural schools of the state. Several valuable prizes are offered as an exceptional inducement to the school children to enter the survey. The association has sent out the following addressed to the rural school children of North Carolina:

"The North Carolina Beef Breeders' and Feeders' Association wants to secure accurate information about all the farmers in the state who are now producing or feeding beef cattle, or who are in a position to do so.

"We believe that beef cattle can be grown and fattened for market in North Carolina as cheaply as in any other state in the Union, and that in a few years time the responsibility for producing a large part of the meat supply of America will fall on the Southeastern states.

"Several valuable prizes will be offered for the best prepared and most complete beef cattle survey made by any school boy or girl in his or her district obtaining this information.

"If you want to enter this contest, estimate the number of farmers in your school district from whom you can get the information we desire, and then write to R. S. Curtis, West Raleigh, N. C., telling him the number of blanks you will need (that is, one for each farmer). Additional blanks will be provided later, if you need them, but do not write for more than you really need. A record will be kept of your name and the number of blanks you apply for, and the number you send in. If you waste them it will be scored against you.

"The enclosed blank will show you what is wanted. The answers must be as short and concise as possible. When you send the survey blanks in, you must get the enclosed blank letter signed by your teacher, stating that you are a regular scholar, and that, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, you obtained all the information yourself.

"The completed blanks must be sent to R. S. Curtis, at West Raleigh, N. C., before September 1, 1915."

The blanks referred to give an elaborate array of questions, answers to which the school children participating in the contest will give.

The list of prizes follows:
N. C. Beef Breeders' and Feeders' Association, West Raleigh, N. C., one pure-bred bull calf.

Sand Hill Board of Trade, Aberdeen, N. C., one pure-bred Berkshire boar.

Animal Industry Division, West Raleigh, N. C., one \$25 Live Stock Library.

Dr. D. H. Hill, A. and M. College, West Raleigh, N. C., \$10 worth pure-bred poultry, any breed desired, as recommended by Office of Poultry Investigations.

Five individual prizes consisting of recent books on live stock.

Names Board of Navigation.

Governor Craig issued commissions to members of a board of navigation and pilotage for the port of Wilmington under the provisions of the act of the recent act of the legislature that changed the law so that there shall be one member from Southport and four from Wilmington. Those appointed are: William St. George, Southport; James Sprunt, J. W. Harper, H. G. Smallbones and Thomas F. Wood, Wilmington.

Dr. Joyner Returns From Florence.

Dr. J. Y. Joyner has returned from Florence, South Carolina, where he delivered an address before the South Carolina Teachers' Association in progress there. Dr. Joyner is one of the men in North Carolina who are always in demand for addresses out of the state.

Wants Land For Sheep Raising.

Commissioner of agriculture Graham has received a letter from Mr. G. W. Wishon of Larchmont, N. Y., who wishes to correspond with parties in this state for the purchase of a thousand acres or more of land suitable for sheep raising.

Only Two-Thirds Cents Per Capita.

According to the Health Bulletin North Carolina's State appropriation for purposes of maintaining a state board of health, a State Laboratory of Hygiene, and a vital statistics department, combined, is nearly one and two-thirds cents per capita.

Insurance Licenses Expire.

Insurance licenses over North Carolina expired recently and into the State Insurance Department during the day poured a mass of mail matter, by way of renewals of licenses for insurance companies practicing in the state. According to Commissioner Young, North Carolina accommodates about twice as many insurance companies as any state in the Union for its size and population. But there appears thus far to be no evidence of cessation of activities of any of these companies in North Carolina.

Well Pleased With Debating.

At the State Department of Education there is the deepest gratification expressed at the proportions to which the High School Debaters' Union of this state has grown during the three years that it has been in existence in its competitive efforts for the Aycock trophy which is provided by the University of North Carolina under the auspices of the two literary societies. This development is indicated by the fact that 250 highly school debaters debated in nearly every section of the state the question of ship subsidy.

NEED OF DYESTUFF BECOMES URGENT

IMMEDIATE AND CONCERTED ACTION BY MANUFACTURERS IS URGED.

SUPPLY FOR TWO MONTHS

Mr. Metz Says Manufacturers Should Declare an Industrial War on Great Britain.

Philadelphia.—Immediate and concerted action by American manufacturers to obtain a modification of Great Britain's rules governing overseas commerce was urged as a remedy for industrial ills by Herman A. Metz, member of congress from New York and a widely-known manufacturer in an address at a conference of dye men here. Mr. Metz said manufacturers should declare an industrial war on England.

Unless the British government changes its policy Mr. Metz declared hundreds of factories throughout the United States will have to suspend operations and about 300,000 men will be thrown out of employment.

Mr. Metz said that American manufacturers are dependent on Germany for certain raw materials but to get them they must find a way to ship to Germany cotton and other things. "The Germans," he added, "have gotten tired of sending us dyestuffs and other materials without getting anything in return."

D. F. Waters of this city read a letter from President Wilson in which the president said the state department appreciates the situation and is doing all it can to relieve it.

The meeting was under the auspices of the board of directors and advisory board of the National Association of Hosiery and Underwear Manufacturers.

Congressman Metz and D. F. Waters, president of the Master Dyers' Association were appointed a committee to place before the state department "the acute crisis in the dyestuff industry at present confronting this country and urge in the strongest terms that such steps be taken as shall relieve the situation." The committee also was empowered to act in conjunction with committees and similar organizations throughout the country.

Several speakers at the conference declared the supply of dyestuffs now in the United States would last only about two months.

RUSSIANS PUSHING GERMANS.

Have Assumed Offensive Along Entire Front in Poland.

London.—The Russians are on the offensive along the whole front, from the Baltic Sea to the Rumanian border and in the Caucasus and according to a Stockholm dispatch they have concentrated an enormous number of soldiers on the Finnish coast to prevent the Germans landing there.

All the Russian advances according to Petrograd, are proceeding with success. The Russian official report claims that the Germans in North Poland are being pushed back to the East Prussian border and that in the Carpathians between the Lupkow and Uzok Passes the Russians have captured still another strongly fortified ridge overlooking insurmountable difficulties such as the scaling of steep ice-covered hills and penetrating cleverly arranged barbed-wire and timber obstructions.

The Russians are also attacking the Germans in the region of Kozlouwka, near the Uzok Pass. There are a large number of prisoners reported to have been captured.

Germans Sink Three Trawlers

Newcastle, England.—Three Tyne trawlers, the Gloxiana, Jasen and Nellie, were sunk by the German submarine U-10. After all the members of the crews were safely in small boats the Germans blew up the trawlers. They then towed the fishermen towards the Tyne until they met fishing craft which brought the men ashore.

Oregon Near Mexico City

Washington.—First definite information of the location of General Oregon and his army since he evacuated Mexico City to the Zapata forces came in an official dispatch from Carranza to his agency here announcing that Oregon had occupied Queretaro, 80 miles north of the capital and was menacing Villa's advance. The gunboat Manchias was ordered from New York to join the American cruiser squadron at Vera Cruz. The battleships Delaware and Georgia soon will come north for target practice.

Sugar Field Workers Strike.

New York.—Between 30,000 and 40,000 native workers in the sugar fields of Porto Rico recently went on strike for a wage increase from fifty to seventy-five cents a day, according to J. C. Bills, chief of the bureau of labor of the Porto Rican government, who arrived here on the Philadelphia. The demands were in process of adjustment for the most part, and the majority of the strikers were back at work when he left the island. During the strike, Mr. Bills said, large fields of sugar cane were burned.

PLANS FOR SAFETY IN MEXICO CITY

WASHINGTON PROPOSES THAT CAPITAL BE MADE NEUTRAL TERRITORY.

VILLA ACCEPTS PROPOSAL

Zapata Also Willing and Result of Effort Depends on Carranza Council to Maintain Order.

Washington.—With the hope of securing permanent protection for the 25,000 foreigners in Mexico City, the United States Government has proposed to the Villa-Zapata forces and to General Carranza that the Mexican Capital be declared neutral and outside the field of operations hereafter in Mexico's civil war.

The Villa-Zapata forces have agreed to the proposal and are willing to evacuate the city as soon as a similar agreement is obtained with the Carranza authorities. On General Carranza depends also whether or not the effort of the United States to neutralize the railway between Mexico City and Vera Cruz shall succeed as the Villa-Zapata officials have agreed to this.

The plan with respect to Mexico City contemplates an arrangement whereby order would be maintained by a local council of prominent residents. The Capital would not be subject to further attacks nor would there be more changes in Government until a central government had been established. Should the Capital be declared neutral, much of the apprehension for the safety of foreigners would be removed and the famine menace eliminated.

No important engagements between the Villa and Carranza forces were reported to the Washington authorities dispatched saying that comparative quiet prevailed along the border and that the Mexico City situation was unchanged.

CATTLE DISEASE IS CONQUERED.

Department Announces Virtual Eradication—124,141 Animals Killed.

Washington.—Virtual eradication of the livestock foot and mouth disease in the United States was announced by the Department of Agriculture. It was said that except for a herd of animals near Syracuse, N. Y., telegraphic reports from throughout the country showed the disease wiped out.

Figures compiled by the Department show that 124,141 diseased animals have been slaughtered from the time of the outbreak in October to March 25, last. It was pointed out, however, that the total loss could not be estimated alone by the number of animals killed. Interference with the operations of stock yards, the quarantining of infested regions and other precautionary measures, it was said, had caused indeterminate losses.

Ambassador Asked for Report.

Washington.—Ambassador Sharp at Paris was called on by the state department for a report as to circumstances surrounding the arrest of Raymond Swoboda, an American, charged with having set fire to the La Touraine, a French liner, on her recent trip from New York to Havre. New York friends of Swoboda had brought press reports of his arrest to the department's attention and vouched for his American citizenship.

Barge Tampico Still Afloat.

Wilmington.—The barge Tampico, with 13 men aboard which broke loose from the tug Pan American on Friday Pan Shoals in a gale recently has not yet been located according to reports received from the owners here. The coast guard cutter Seminole and the tug Pan-American is still searching for the missing craft.

Ask Full Value of Cargo.

Washington.—Indemnity for the full value of the American ship William F. Frye, destroyed at sea by the German converted cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich, has been formally requested from Germany by the United States government.

Divers on Way to Honolulu.

Washington.—Rear Admiral Moore, in charge of operations to raise the long submerged submarine F-4 at Honolulu cabled to the navy department that he was proceeding with the work pending the arrival of divers apparatus. The apparatus was forwarded to San Francisco to be shipped to Honolulu on the cruiser Maryland. Rear Admiral Moore's dispatch said he would not be able to report anything for several days but that he was "making preparations to lift."

Turks Massacre Christians.

Tabatiz, Persia.—Preceding the reoccupation by the Russians of Salmac Plains in Azerbaidjan Province, north-west of Urumiah, hundreds of native Christians were rounded up by the Turks in the village of Hatfdevan and massacred. Many of these were searched out from the homes of friendly Mohammedans who tried to hide them. The Russians on entering the village found 730 bodies, mostly naked and mutilated. Recovery of bodies and their burial kept 300 men busy for three days.

APRIL SHOWERS



ALABAMA BEGINS WATCH TWO STEAMERS ARE SUNK

LONG NEUTRALITY CONFERENCE IS HELD AT NORFOLK NAVY YARD.

British Warships Guard the Eitel Off Coast—Getting No Supplies From Norfolk is Declared.

Newport News, Va.—Enforcement of neutrality of the United States in the port of Norfolk and Newport News was the subject of a protracted conference at the Norfolk Navy Yard following the arrival in Hampton Roads of the battleship Alabama, which took a commanding position in the channel to the sea and remained there taking on ammunition and supplies.

Participating in the conference were Rear Admiral Beatty, commander of the Norfolk Navy Yard; Rear Admiral Helm, commander of the reserve Atlantic fleet, who arrived on the Alabama, and Norman P. Hamilton, collector of customs for the port of Norfolk and Newport News.

While the conference at the Navy Yard was in progress Captain Max Thierichsen, commander of the German converted cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich, still in dock here, was closed with deputy customs officials in the Newport News office. At the conclusion of the conference at the Norfolk Navy Yard, Government officials refused to discuss it. Primarily, it was learned, the Alabama came to Hampton Roads to guard the neutrality interests of the United States between a German man-of-war within an American port and a fleet of warships of the European Allies which is hovering off the Virginia Capes.

The situation thus presented demanded the presence of a warship of the United States was generally admitted. That the Allied warships which have been off the cape since the German commerce raider arrived here had ventured within the three-mile limit and that merchant ships had furnished them with supplies had been circulated here for several days before the sending of the Alabama. As to merchant ships it was said that they had taken deck loads of coal after filling their bunkers and taking on other cargo.

"I have investigated thoroughly one case in which a merchant ship was reported to have taken coal to a foreign warship off the cape and found it not true," said Collector Hamilton.

ENLISTED MEN OF NAVY.

Secretary Daniels Tells Where Navy Men Come From.

Washington.—Secretary Daniels issued a statement showing where the enlisted men of the navy come from. The figures were compiled as a result of a recent question by President Wilson as to whether most of the sailors were not from coastwise states.

Alabama 428, Arizona 39, Arkansas 304, California 2,112, Colorado 520, Connecticut 924, Delaware 212, District of Columbia 679, Florida 251, Georgia 777, Idaho 98, Illinois 2,480, Indiana 1,501, Iowa 1,018, Kansas 651, Kentucky 728, Louisiana 655, Maine 303, Maryland 1,538, Massachusetts 3,420, Michigan 1,118, Minnesota 594, Mississippi 327, Missouri 1,408, Montana 114, Nebraska 500, Nevada 19, New Hampshire 280, New Jersey 2,658, New Mexico 95, New York 7,922, North Carolina 660, North Dakota 126, Ohio 2,228, Oklahoma 609, Oregon, Pennsylvania 5,013, Rhode Island 1,063, South Carolina 397, South Dakota 134, Tennessee 792, Texas 1,600, Utah 100, Vermont 124, Virginia 1,497, Washington 648, West Virginia 241, Wisconsin 960, Wyoming 43. No residence listed.

Mexican Forces Gather at Lampazos.

Washington.—While Villa forces are delaying their attack on Matamoros pending the arrival of artillery, the stage is being set for another battle at Lampazos about 70 miles south-west of Nuevo Laredo. Border advances to the State and War Department said Villa forces bound to attack the Carranza garrison at Nuevo Laredo were expected to reach Lampazos at once, "where a battle probably will be fought." Earlier messages said Carranza troops were being assembled at Nevo Laredo.

TWO MORE BRITISH STEAMERS SUNK

GERMAN SUBMARINES CONTINUE RAIDS ON WEST COAST OF ENGLAND.

TOTALS FIVE IN FIVE DAYS

Merchants Ask Permission to Arm Trading Vessels.—British Public Greatly Stirred.

London.—Two German submarines, the U-28 and another whose number has not been ascertained, which have been operating off the west coast of England during the past few days, have added two more British steamers, the Flamian and Crown of Castle, to their list of victims, totalling five in five days.

There was no loss of life on the two vessels, although the submarine fired before the crew of the Crown of Castle left the steamer.

The Crown of Castle was sunk by shell fire but the Flamian was torpedoed.

As an offset to this, a French destroyer rammed, and it is believed, sank a German submarine off Dieppe. As the destroyers have been unable to round up the submarines ship owners have petitioned the Government to be allowed to arm their ships. This has not been permitted heretofore, as steamers then could be considered ships of war and be sunk without notice.

The heavy loss of life in the sinking of the Falaba and Agula has aroused a storm of indignation and the demand is made that the captured crews of submarines be treated as pirates.

This question and that relating to drink, which is said to be causing delay in the delivery of munitions of war, absorb public interest. The King, through his secretary, has sent a letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer emphasizing the necessity of stopping excessive drinking, and has offered, if it is considered advisable, personally to give up the use of alcoholic liquor and to prohibit the use of it in the royal household.

The Government has reached no decision in the matter.

It has been decided to incorporate the Liverpool dockers in the army voluntarily because the workers refuse to work week ends. They thus will receive both army and their regular pay.

WASHINGTON VIEWS SITUATION.

Death of Thresher on British Liner is a Grave Matter.

Washington.—While no official notification of the death of an American, Leon C. Thresher, on the British liner Falaba, sunk by a German submarine had reached the American government, officials viewed the situation as fraught with grave possibilities.

Secretary Bryan said he expected Ambassador Page in London to submit a full report on the case if advances there confirmed reports of Thresher's death but added that no inquiries had been received by the department nor had any been made of Mr. Page.

In view of the language of the American note of inquiry in reply to the German notification of a submarine blockade of England, it is known the facts in this case will be awaited with the greatest interest.

That note contained a plain warning that the loss of American lives through the German program of sinking merchant vessels would be viewed as an unfriendly act.

Zapata Powers Pay Mrs. McManus.

Washington.—The payment by the Villa-Zapata Government of 150,000 pesos, or \$20,000 in gold at the prevailing rate of exchange in Mexico City to Mrs. Ruth McManus, widow of John B. McManus, the American killed by Zapata's troopers on their re-occupation of the State Department by the Brazilian Minister in the Mexican Capital.

Washington Unconcerned.

Washington.—While the German commerce raider Prinz Eitel Friedrich loaded at Newport News and reports persisted that she was preparing for a dash to sea where British and French warships are waiting, officials of the Washington Government awaited the expiration of the time given the cruiser to stay in port without comment or apparent anxiety. Naval officers freely predict that the ship will intern for the war, but department officials are silent.

Will Use Diving Bell.

Honolulu.—Tests with the specially built diving bell designed for use in locating and raising the submarine F-4 lost at the harbor entrance with 21 men aboard, have resulted satisfactorily. The bell is said to have remained water-tight after being submerged for 24 hours. It is planned to submerge the bell with a man inside for further tests before lowering it at the point where the submarine is said to be located. The bell is a 54-inch iron pipe seven feet high and has telephone, gas ports, air, etc.