

# The Yarkin Ripple

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NO. 16.

## DAVIDSON COUNTY BONDS ARE VALID

SUPREME COURT HOLDS THAT JUDICIARY HAS NO CONTROL IN THE MATTER.

## 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.

One of the most notable opinions of the Supreme Court delivered this week was that from Davidson county—Hargrave vs. Davidson Road Commissioners—involving the \$300,000 bond issue authorized by the recent legislature to be made without special vote of the people for road improvement and completely changing the road laws of the county. The appeal as from the refusal of the trial judge to grant to opponents of the bond issue a restraining order against the new road commission and its exercise of the powers conferred upon it.

In this case Justices Brown and Walker dissent, Justice Brown filing the dissenting opinion. In this the position is taken that the supreme court should reverse itself in the matter of the extent to which the principle of issuance of bonds for "necessary expenses" of county or municipal purposes can be stretched. The dissenting opinion declares that it never entered the minds of the framers of the Constitution in 1868 that Article 7, Section 7, would ever be construed to empower road commissioners to issue \$300,000 bonds without vote of the citizens of the county. It is contended, further, that there is no limit to the extent to which this construction can be stretched. The bond issue might as well be \$1,000,000 as \$300,000 so far as the construction of the court as to the "necessary expenses" is concerned.

The controlling opinion of the court in the Davidson road bond case mainly reaffirms the position of the court in Commissioner vs. Commissioners from Yancey county, 145 N. C. Reports, holding that this is a matter in which the Judiciary Department has no power over the co-ordinate legislative branch of state government and that the remedy is with the people in procuring whatever legislation can be had from a subsequent legislature to give relief, as was the case in the Yancey county case cited. The court holds as to the issue of defects in the machinery for condemning lands for road purposes that this is not an issue that can be raised at this state and that at no stage could it involve any injunction proceeding such as that at bar.

### Delegates to Commercial Council.

Governor Craig has announced the appointment of 300 delegates to the Southern Commercial Council at Chattanooga, Tenn., April 27-30, there being 10 each to represent the agricultural, manufacturing and the professional interests of the State. The following:

**Agricultural**—Lieut. Gov. E. L. Daughtridge, Rocky Mount; John Sprunt Hill, Durham; Frank H. Flier, Thomasville; John Wood, Edenton; John Wilkinson, Bellhaven; J. C. Currie, Fayetteville; Leonard Tufts, Pinehurst; Frank Page, Bliscoe; H. W. Horton, North Wilkesboro; C. Van Leuven, Wilmington.

**Manufacturing**—J. S. Carr, Jr., Durham; T. N. Webb, Hillsboro; H. Well, Goldsboro; Elwood Cox, High Point; R. J. Reynolds, Winston-Salem; J. Frank Wilkes, Charlotte; S. B. Tanner, Caroleen; C. D. Bradburn, Newbern; C. D. Canfield, Morehead City; Thomas Woodruff, Mount Airy.

**Professional**—R. R. Clark, Statesville; Dr. N. E. Fletcher, Asheville; J. Lee Crowell, Concord; J. Crawford Biggs, Raleigh; Rev. W. D. Moss, Chapel Hill; Dr. J. I. Foust, Greensboro; Prof. E. C. Branson, Chapel Hill; Dr. Hubert Royster, Raleigh; T. Gilbert White, Durham; Harry Howell, Asheville.

**To Represent General Education Board**—Mr. Jackson Davis, who is just now retiring from his position as state agent for rural schools with the Virginia Department of Education to become Southern representative of the General Education Board of the South in the utilization of the Slater and the Jeannes and other special educational funds is spending a few days in this state with members of the office staff of the North Carolina Department of Education making special study of the work in this state as it applies to the new work.

### Big Decrease in Fire Losses.

At the State Department Insurance it is said was given out that there is a marked decrease in fire losses in the United States and Canada for the month of March and the first quarter of 1915 as compared with corresponding previous periods. The total fire loss for March was \$18,788,000, compared with \$25,512,000 for March, 1914, and \$17,500,000 for March 1913. The fire losses for the first quarter of the present year were \$51,928,000 against \$70,461,000 for the first quarter 1914.

### Refuses Pardon to James Wilcox.

Declaring that while there was only one vote raised against a pardon for James Wilcox, murderer of Nell Cropsey, at Elizabeth City. But that voice was from a mother's heart, always constant and with justice on her side constituting a majority opposition. Governor Craig definitely declined to grant the petition for pardon. In connection with this refusal the Governor issued a lengthy statement consisting of seven and a half typewritten pages.

Wilcox has served 12 years of a 30-year sentence for second-degree murder. In his statement and reasons for refusing the pardon the Governor reviewed in detail the circumstances of the association of Wilcox and Nell Cropsey as lovers, the lovely and attractive personality of the ill-fated girl, the events of the fatal evening at the Cropsey home, the disappearance of the girl and the conduct of Wilcox, together with the features of the trial and the final disposition of the case by the Supreme Court on appeal, leaving Wilcox to serve the 30-year sentence. He refuses to credit suicide and says:

"I cannot say that in this case there has been any miscarriage of justice. I believe that the demand for justice would not be satisfied by punishment of 12-years imprisonment for this crime. To release the defendant would in my opinion tend to lessen the confidence in our courts to do justice and would not be in accordance with the well-considered judgment of state as expressed by statute."

### Opinions of the Supreme Court.

The 17 opinions delivered by the court follow: Morton vs. Light & Power Co., Beaufort, partial new trial; Barnes vs. Southern Railway, Wilson, no error; Atlantic Coast Line vs. Bunting, Pitt, reversed; Groves vs. Scott, Wake, new trial; Plumbing Company vs. Hotel Company, Wake, no error; King vs. McCrackin, Columbus, no error; Chilton vs. Grom, Forsyth, no error; Prick Company vs. Bowles, Surry, reversed; Shoe Company vs. Travis & Lee, Forsyth, affirmed; Biekeley vs. Candler, Forsyth, reversed; State vs. Slier, Guilford, reversed; Shaw vs. Public Service Corporation, Guilford, no error; Hargrave vs. Board of Road Commissioners, Davidson, affirmed; City of Charlotte vs. Brown, motion of plaintiff to rehear dismissed; Humphrey vs. Caldwell, New Hanover, affirmed.

### Farmers' Market Bulletin of Interest.

The present number of the Farmers' Market Bulletin contains articles of interest to farmers who have cotton, corn, potatoes, butter, or eggs to market.

The work of the North Carolina Division of Markets is outlined in a special report which was written for the Department of Agriculture of the State of Missouri. This report shows how farmers, merchants, bankers, and railroads may co-operate with a State Division of Markets. The co-operation of all is especially needed at this time to develop a market for North Carolina products when the state is in some measure shifting from the production of cotton to that of food and feed crops.

### Leaf Tobacco Sales For March.

Leaf tobacco sales during March, as reported to the State Department of Agriculture by 23 markets, aggregated 1,720,440 pounds first-hand for farmers and 2,227,300, including resales dealers. Winston-Salem led with 461,228 pounds for growers and 725,000 including resales for dealers. Raleigh was second with 280,613 total sales.

### Delegate to Labor Conference.

Governor Craig appointed as delegates from this state to the Southern Conference on Women and Child Labor to be held at Memphis, Tenn., April 26 and 27 the following: W. A. Erwin, Durham; C. E. Hutchison, Mt. Holly; Bishop Joseph Blount Cheshire, Raleigh; Rev. R. F. Campbell, Asheville; Zeb Vance Weaver, Asheville.

### Big Orchard Company Gets Charter.

A charter was issued for the Haywood Orchard Company, Waynesville, capital \$100,000 authorized and \$25,000 subscribed by N. F. Thompson of Birmingham, Ala., S. J. Phillipson, A. P. McGraw, Henry B. Stevenson and J. B. Anderson of Asheville.

### Schedule of Freight Rates on Lime.

Commissioner of Agriculture W. A. Graham issued tabulated schedule of freight rates on agricultural lime to be shipped in car load lots out of Johnson City, Tenn., by the Cranberry Fertilizer Company at 50 cents per ton over the Carolina and Clinchfield road and delivered all along this road, the Seaboard Air Line, the Norfolk Southern and other connection points where the freight rates will justify shipments from this point. The commissioner ordered improvements in passenger station equipment at Kinston.

### Several New Charters Granted.

Carolina Jitney Company, Raeford, Hoke county, capital \$25,000 authorized, and \$500 subscribed by Paul J. Harringer, D. C. Knibbs and others for five-cent automobile lines. The Palace Clothing Company, Wilmington, capital \$125,000 capital authorized, and \$5,000 subscribed by J. E. Schloss New York, E. I. Bear and A. W. Goldsmith of Wilmington. The Nash Horse Medicine Company, Nashville, capital \$50,000 authorized, and \$2,500 subscribed by C. C. Ward and others.

## HOSTILE AIRCRAFT ANNOYS ENGLAND

GERMANS MAKE THREE ZEPPELIN RAIDS WITHIN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS.

## NO LOSE OF LIFE OR DAMAGE

At Least 50 Bombs are Sent Down—Raiders Keep Away From All Large Cities.

London.—England experienced its third hostile air raid within 48 hours, but the last, like the others resulted in no loss of life and no serious damage to property.

Taking advantage of fine weather which enabled Zeppelins to visit the vicinity of the Tyne and the coasts of Suffolk and Essex early, a German aeroplane flew over the county of Kent, dropping bombs. In all, four missiles were dropped in the vicinity of the towns of Faversham and Sittingbourne, the latter just across the Bugle from the Isle of Sheppey, which is the birthplace of the British Royal Naval Flying Corps.

All the bombs fell in fields. From Sittingbourne the aeroplane flew over the Isle of Sheppey and it is thought probable the raider mistook the towns attacked for Sheerness, the British naval base, which is on the other side of the island. On his way the airman passed over Canterbury and other towns in Kent but did not drop any explosives upon or near them.

Zeppelins, for it is believed two visited East Anglia during the early hours dropped some 25 incendiary and explosive bombs on Lowestoft, Southwold, Maldon, Burnham-on-the-Crouch, Heybridge and Tillingham, but like the raid of the previous night on the Tynemouth district, there was only slight damage, although many persons had narrow escapes. In Lowestoft a bomb dropped in a garden, shattered a row of small houses and persons sleeping in them were cut by broken glass.

During the three raids at least 50 bombs were sent down by the Germans. The raiders kept away from the larger towns. There they might have been discovered by searchlights and come under fire from the land.

### GOVERNMENT WILL ANSWER.

Date for Hearing in the Riggs Bank Case Set for May 12.

Washington.—With almost a month in which to prepare for the next appearance in court, counsel for the government in the injunction proceedings against treasury officials brought by the Riggs National Bank laid plans to make full answer to all charges set forth in the complaint.

Justice McCoy in the District of Columbia Supreme Court set May 12 as the date when the government must answer charges that Secretary McAdoo and Comptroller of the Currency Williams have conspired to wreck the bank. Counsel for the government asked for a postponement and counsel for the bank said they were ready to proceed at any time.

### Gorgas Can't Go.

Washington.—Secretary Garrison made it plain he would oppose Major General Gorgas' going to Serbia for the Rockefeller Foundation to fight the typhus scourge unless the surgeon general resigns his commission in the army.

Mr. Garrison takes the position that should General Gorgas go to Serbia as a retired officer in which capacity he still would be under the jurisdiction of the war department a situation would be created which easily might lead to trouble.

### Villa Troops Leave Matamoros.

Brownsville, Texas.—A report that the 5,000 Villa troops which have been besieging Matamoros for more than two weeks had started for Celaya to assist General Villa in his campaign against General Obregon was received by Major General Frederick Funston in command of the United States troops here.

### Army Wants Prohibition.

Washington.—A delegation from the anti-saloon league called on Secretary Garrison, causing comment which increased when he declined to make public the reason for the call. The Secretary afterwards explained however, that the delegation had not even in its own judgment sufficiently established the facts it wished to present. Rumor had it that there was an effort to introduce in the army regulations similar to those which Secretary Daniels has applied to the Navy.

### New Officers Are Elected.

Atlanta, Ga.—J. G. Belding of Augusta, Ga., was elected president of the Southern Supply & Machinery Dealers' Association at the closing session of its annual convention here. Other officers elected included: First vice president, Ernest Howell, Charleston, W. Va.; second vice president, George H. Manning, Knoxville, Tenn.; secretary and treasurer, Alvin M. Smith, Richmond, Va.; W. H. Banks, Huntington, W. Va., and W. A. Ray, Pensacola, Fla., were elected to the executive committee.



RODNEY S. DURKEE  
Mr. Durkee is controller of the Panama-Pacific exposition and in that capacity has supervision over the financial details of the big fair.

## UZSOK STOPS RUSSIANS

AUSTRIANS GREATLY CHEERED BY NUMBER OF GERMAN REINFORCEMENTS.

French Are Satisfied With Successes in West Between Meuse and Lo-raine Frontier.

London.—Two gateways into Hungary still remain barred, despite the tremendous Russian hammering and as the Beskid Pass is the less important of the two strategically, a further advance into Hungary hangs on the possession of Uzok Pass, where the invaders are meeting with stubborn opposition. Several days ago the Russians captured a position which gave them command of a road leading to the rear of Uzok Pass, but since then the Teutonic Allies have checked the movement. The importance of the Carpathian operations is indicated by the half-hearted actions along the rest of the long eastern front.

The people of the Dual Monarchy are said to be greatly cheered by the number of German reinforcements passing through Budapest on the way to the Carpathian front to take part in the operations, which are now believed to be in charge of the German General Staff.

The whole situation in the East pivots on Uzok Pass where the Austro-German forces are in such great strength that the efforts of the Russians to reach the Hungarian Plains are likely to be prolonged.

In the west the French apparently are satisfied with their recent successes between the Meuse and the Lorraine frontier and claim only to have come in contact with the German entanglements in this region. Official German reports assert that determined attacks by the French reports assert that determined attacks by the French have been repulsed along this section.

### GOVERNMENT BACKS OFFICIALS.

Department of Justice Will Aid Williams and McAdoo.

Washington.—Developments indicated that the Government intends to do its utmost to back up Secretary McAdoo of the Treasury, and Comptroller of the Currency Williams in the legal fight precipitated by the Riggs National Bank, complainant in equity proceedings to enjoin these officials from alleged attempts to drive that institution out of business through systematic and long-continued persecution.

Attorney General Gregory announced that the Department of Justice had employed Louis D. Brandeis of Boston, to defend Messrs. Williams and McAdoo in the injunction proceedings. He declared his department and the treasury were co-operating in these proceedings. It became known also that Jesse C. Adkins, former Assistant Attorney General also had been retained in the case.

### Governor Fielder Vetoes Bills.

Trenton, N. J.—Governor Fielder vetoed bills to amend seven-sister anti-trust laws. The Governor said the amendments would take the teeth out of the incorporation laws of the state that were put in by the seven-sister measure.

### Carranza Garrison Licks Villa.

Brownsville, Texas.—In a sortie the Carranza garrison defending Matamoros inflicted a heavy blow upon the Villa army besieging the town. General Saulo Navarre, second in command of the Villa troops, was brought to Brownsville dangerously wounded and the Carranza consulate here claimed the Villa dead numbered 300. The sortie drew from the Villa forces their long-promised shelling of Matamoros but the shelling stopped when the Carranza division returned to the trench.

## SAYS MEXICO CAN NOT BE CONQUERED

SIXTEEN MILLION WILL HAVE TO BE KILLED BEFORE MEXICO COULD BE INVADIED.

## VIEW OF GENERAL HUERTA

He Declares the Heads of Washington Administration Have Not Been Fair to Mexico.

New York.—Asserting that he had nothing to do with the death of Francisco Madero, General Victoriano Huerta, former Provisional President issued a lengthy signed statement relating to the question.

General Huerta declared he knew who was responsible for Madero's death, but that he was keeping it as "a professional secret."

General Huerta's statement reviewed the history of the Madero revolution, his own accession to the Provisional Presidency and concluded with the assertion that "my country can not be conquered."

Sixteen millions of men, women and children would have to be killed before Mexico would submit to an invader, Huerta asserted.

The heads of the Washington Administration, Huerta declared, had not been fair to Mexico, had been misled by false statements and if they had been in Mexico for thirty days "they would have changed their theoretical, erroneous ideas." Had it not been for the embargo on the exportation of arms from this country General Huerta indicated that his army would have prevailed over those opposed to it.

The former Provisional President reiterated the assertion made when he left Mexico last year that he had resigned from his position only because he hoped to bring peace to his country. He pointed out that in the eight months elapsed since that date the situation in Mexico had become "too sad for me to analyze deeply."

"Anarchy is too soft a word to call it," he said. Mexico eventually would be saved, but by a Mexican, he said. Who that would be he did not know. Huerta declined to give an inkling as to his future movements. He denied that he would go to San Antonio, Texas, or any other point near the Mexican border. Discussing the death of Madero, he said:

"That is a professional secret. Lawyers have secrets, doctors have secrets—I am a soldier—why should not a soldier have secrets? It is not through friendship for any one that I am withholding the information. The time will soon come when my name will be vindicated and, as General Lee said of General Jackson, the world will say of me, I stood like a stone wall submitting to the ignominy and the insults heaped upon me."

### NETHERLANDS STEAMER SUNK.

Anchored Off Her Home Coasts She Is Torpedoed.

London.—The Netherlands steamer Katwyk, Baltimore for Rotterdam, was torpedoed while anchored seven miles west of the Hinder Lightship in the North Sea.

The crew of 23 was saved and taken to Flushing, according to a Reuter dispatch. The dispatch quotes the men as saying that as they rowed away they saw the periscope of a submarine, which quickly disappeared. The Katwyk sank 15 minutes after the explosion.

Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent says the Katwyk had been lying at anchor for 15 minutes when torpedoed. The correspondent says a message from the Hook of Holland declares that all the ship's lights were burning at the time of the attack.

### Zeppelins Visit England.

London.—Two Zeppelin airships visited the east coast of England, dropping bombs on several towns and doing considerable damage to property. As far as has been ascertained, only one person, a woman, was injured. It is said she was only slightly hurt.

### Trift Speaks to Legislature.

Harrisburg.—William H. Taft told Pennsylvania legislators to conserve the people's money and not to spend it before they know how much the state has to spend. "The growing danger in this country," Mr. Taft said, "is the waste of the people's money." The former president declared the government should not go into business in competition with private enterprise. "The people's money should not be put into private business where private enterprise can do the work better," Mr. Taft said.

### Britain Apologizes to Chile.

London.—Great Britain has offered a "full and ample apology" to the Chilean government for the sinking of the Chilean cruiser Dresden, the internment of which already has been ordered by the maritime governor of Cumberland Bay when the British squadron attacked and sank the German. This fact was made public by a White Paper giving the texts of the Chilean note protesting against the sinking of the Dresden and the British reply.



JOSEPH LEITER  
The man who lost millions in an attempt to corner wheat several years ago was a star witness at the recent inquiry in New York into the increased cost of bread. Mr. Leiter told why, in his opinion, the cost of wheat had risen since the war began.

## CHARGE IS CONSPIRACY

SECRETARY OF TREASURY McADOO AND COMPTROLLER MADE DEFENDANTS.

Riggs National Bank Seeks in Court to Stop Combined Demands of Treasury Officials.

Washington.—Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo and Comptroller of the Currency Williams were made defendants in proceedings begun in the District of Columbia Supreme Court by the Riggs National Bank of Washington, D. C., which alleges that these officials have combined and conspired to wreck the bank.

Temporary and permanent injunctions to halt the alleged conspiracy, and to prevent the Comptroller from making what the bank charges are unlawful demands for special reports of various kinds, are sought from the court.

One portion of the prayer seeks to restrain John Burke, treasurer of the United States from payment into the treasury of \$5,000 declared to be due the bank as interest on \$1,000,000 of United States bonds deposited with the Comptroller against its note circulation. This interest was withheld to cover penalties of \$100 a day for the bank's failure to make certain reports.

Once paid into the treasury, only an act of Congress could get the \$5,000, out and Justice McCoy granted a temporary injunction on this phase of the case.

The bank's bill of complaint contains 37 specific allegations designed to show that the Comptroller has adopted unusual and legally questionable tactics in dealing with the institution. It recites that evidence of an unusual desire for information concerning the bank was shown by Mr. Williams shortly after he assumed the office of Comptroller more than a year ago, and has continued ever since. Prior to that time, in December, 1913, it says Mr. McAdoo charged officers of the bank of responsibility for publications regarding the official conduct of the defendant Williams as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. When this charge was denied, the bill asserts, Secretary McAdoo cursed Milton E. Alles, a vice president of the bank, and said to C. C. Glover, its president: "Mr. Glover, you know what this means to the Riggs National Bank."

SHIP BADLY NEEDS REPAIRS.

Kronprinz Wilhelm Must Make Formal Requests.

Newport News, Va.—The German merchant raider Kronprinz Wilhelm, under orders from the Washington government, will not be permitted to go into dry dock at the shipyard here until Captain Thierfelder, commander of the ship, has made formal request in writing of the repairs he wishes to make to render his vessel seaworthy and for supplies necessary to take him to the nearest port.

### Vice President Slightly Ill.

Globe, Ariz.—A slight illness, it is announced preventing Vice President Marshall participating in the celebration to mark the first filling of the great Roosevelt irrigation reservoir in the Superstition mountains.

### Warship Des Moines Is Sent.

Washington.—The cruiser Des Moines will be the only additional warship sent to Dominican waters until further details of differences between President Jimenez and his congress are received here. The Des Moines was ordered from Progresso to Santo Domingo City. It was assumed that Minister Sullivan in asking for an additional warship feared the dispute might easily be fanned into another revolution. The Nashville already is at Santo Domingo City and the gunboat Wheeling had been sent over.

## SCOTT MAXWELL IS ELECTED PRESIDENT

NEW LEADER NAMED BY COTTON MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION AT MEMPHIS.

## PALMER CHILD LABOR LAW

Protest Against Operation of Bill.—Favors Merchant Marine.—Wants "Open Door."

Memphis, Tenn.—Endorsement was given proposals to establish an American merchant marine by Government subsidy and protest made against the operation of the Palmer child labor law and legislation pending in Congress to require the branding of goods, in a resolution adopted by the American Cotton Manufacturers' Association, which concluded its annual convention here. Other resolutions adopted asked that the United States Government require a new statement of the "right of equal opportunity" to trade in the markets of the world, particularly in China and that the principles of the "open door" be reasserted.

Scott Maxwell of Cordova, Ala., was elected president of the association, John A. Law, Spartanburg, S. C. vice president and Casper Cone, Greensboro, N. C., chairman of the board of governors. Other members of the board of governors elected were J. J. Bradley, Huntsville, Ala.; Eugene Holt, Burlington, N. C.; George E. Spofford, Augusta, Ga.; Paul J. Marrs, Henderson, Ky., and Craig S. Mitchell, Philadelphia.

C. B. Bryant, Charlotte, N. C., was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

Several speakers urged that the Government immediately adopt measures to prevent the introduction of the Egyptian boll weevil in this country. Fumigation of all Egyptian cotton at ports of receipt in the United States and requirements that mills receiving such cotton burn all waste were suggested.

"If the Egyptian boll weevil ever gets a foothold in the cotton fields of the South, the ravages of the Mexican boll weevil will be insignificant in comparison," declared J. H. Seapark, chairman of the committee which presented a report on the importation of foreign cotton.

No action was taken on the so-called Duke warehouse plan.

## FIFTEEN KILLED IN COLLISION.

Street Car and Freight Train Collide in Detroit.

Detroit, Mich.—Fifteen persons were killed and about 20 injured in a collision between a Detroit city street car and a string of freight cars pushed by a switch engine on the Detroit, Toledo & Ironton Railroad.

Most of the dead lived in Detroit's foreign quarter. Four are women. The street car, crowded with passengers, stopped as it approached the railroad crossing and the conductor ran ahead to see if the track was clear. He signalled the motorman to wait, but apparently the latter misunderstood his meaning. He applied the power and the car ran rapidly down an incline and onto the railroad tracks.

The freight cars pushed by the engine struck the street car fairly in the middle. The wreckage was pushed along 100 feet, several of the dead and injured dropping along the street before the train was stopped. Others were crushed in the splintered mass of steel and wood and it was several hours before they could be extricated.

### Kaiser Visits in Italy.

Geneva, via Paris.—Information reaching Geneva tends to confirm the reports that Emperor William visited Emperor Francis Joseph last month. According to this information Emperor William determined to see Emperor Francis Joseph after receiving from Prince von Buelow, German ambassador to Italy, a message that negotiations concerning territorial concessions by Austria as the price of Italy's neutrality had failed.

### May Soon Get Dyestuff.

Washington.—State department officials were prepared to take up with the German government the last step necessary to supply American textile mills with two cargoes of German dyestuffs bought before March 1. The way was cleared by the announcement that Great Britain had agreed to permit these cargoes under certain conditions to come through from Rotterdam. The position previously taken by the German government has been that it would permit dye shipments in exchange for cotton or copper.

### Gen. Funston at Brownsville.

Brownsville, Texas.—Major General Frederick Funston, who has just arrived here from San Antonio to take charge of the border situation created by the siege of Matamoros, said his coming was due to reports that the Villa artillery was advancing and that the fighting might be expected to reach a climax soon. The day passed, however, with no bombardment of Matamoros, the only fighting reported being heard from the Brulay plantation, about eight miles down the Rio Grande from Matamoros.