

FLOODS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF HOLLAND CAUSE BIG DAMAGE

Railway Dykes Have Collapsed at Several Places, and Others Now Threaten to Follow.

RAISE FUND TO AID SUFFERERS

Several Villages Flooded and One Town Is Almost Covered by Water From River Neuse.

Amsterdam, Holland, Jan. 2.—(P)—The flood in the valley of the rivers Meuse, Wall, Rhine and Lek have assumed the character of a catastrophe, with the waters still rising.

Railway dykes have collapsed at several places, and so serious threat to follow. The damage is so tremendous that considerable time must elapse before the waters subside before railway traffic can be resumed.

Several villages are flooded and it is feared others will suffer likewise. The authorities are working day and night to assist the population. The town of Venlo at the Meuse is flooded. Remond, 14 miles to the southwest, is without electric lights, but the telephone and telegraph services are operating. The apparatus having been transferred to upper stories out of reach of the water.

Belgians Raise Flood Fund. Brussels, Belgium, Jan. 2.—(P)—A national subscription has been opened through the newspapers and the Belgian Red Cross on behalf of the sufferers from the floods which have attained the proportions of a disaster.

Worst Flood in Years. London, Jan. 2.—(P)—Several days of incessant rainfall in England and over the whole of western Europe has caused the worst flood experienced in these sections in many years, due to the overflowing of rivers. The districts suffering most heavily are Holland, Belgium, western Germany and northern France, where the Rhine, Meuse and Scheldt with their tributaries have burst their banks at several points. Immense material damage has been done on the continent where there have been some casualties by drowning.

Twenty-nine Dutch lives are reported to have been lost, and thousands of acres of crops have been destroyed. Many factories are idle.

METHODIST YOUTH OPEN CONVENTION

Five Thousand Young People Attending Unusual Gathering at Memphis.

Memphis, Tenn., Jan. 1.—Methodist youth people, 5,000 strong, went into session here last night with Southern Methodist leaders to outline a campaign to assist the youth of the present generation in knowing the mind of Christ in relation to their own needs.

The meeting—the culmination of plans initiated two years ago—was organized as the first Methodist Young People's conference, and is attended by delegates from virtually every church in Southern Methodism. The sessions will continue through Sunday.

Youth acts that leadership be intellectually honest," Bryan Hall, of Corpus Christi, Texas, said in opening the session from the young people's standpoint. Science and its discoveries are not undermining our faith, but the spiritual force of Christianity has not been keeping pace with material progress. Our lives are the materials from which new ideals are to be realized.

"May we discover at this convention some world problems, that will lift us out of provincialism into a vital experience. Youth asks for a real share in the big projects for the Kingdom of God on earth. Duty to God has been too long a question of attending worship and placing a few dimes in the collection plate."

Miss Catherine Cobb, of Nashville, Tenn., born in Monterey, Mex., and the daughter of a former Methodist missionary, spoke on "what youth gives." "It is much easier to defend one's loyalty to the truth of Jesus Christ than in the face of the world to defend continued attendance upon and active service in the institution which He founded," she said. "It has hurt the pride of youth to find that it is frequently difficult to give loyalty to the church as an organized institution. Only when youth comes forward unhampered by age-old prejudices, having no ancient quarrels to remember, only then have committees been able to work together."

"Thus it is that the life of youth has manned the mission fields, showing the way of the Christ-like life to other nations. It is youth's joyous service. Side by side with those who are doing the world's work youth has worked, putting Christ as the center, working in business for service rather than profit, in social life for contentment rather than restlessness, in the church for Christ rather than for denomination, and in the home for unity and peace."

The convention is sponsored officially by the boards of education, missions, Sunday School, publications, Epworth League, Women's Missionary Council, and lay activities of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Being in love, like eating ham, requires perfect confidence.

All Western North Carolina Is Riding Crest of Trading Wave

Stop In Any Town and You Will Hear About Real Estate Deals by the Hundreds.—Bridgewater Still Badly In Need of Water.

W. M. SHERRILL, Editorial Correspondent. Marion, Jan. 1.—If you want to hear about real estate deals by the hundreds you don't have to go to Florida. Just step from the train or your auto in any western North Carolina town, start a conversation with a local citizen and you will hear data and figures that will be astounding.

McDowell County, of which Marion is the county seat, is feeling the real estate boom which struck Western North Carolina some time ago and men who formerly were considered "land poor" are now selling rugged mountain tops and rocky slopes for sums that run into the millions. A \$500,000 deal is pending in this town now and tonight in a local hotel I met a man who came here to see about some "lost" property that his father purchased years ago.

And McDowell County has some of the most picturesque lands in the "Land of the Sky." Marion is not as high as Black Mountain or Asheville, or Hendersonville or some of the other cities in the heart of the "dirt boom" but just the same it is close enough to the mountains to be attractive to the speculator in mountain lands and the county dirt is changing hands rapidly.

In a conversation with the Register of Deeds of the county I learned that the real estate transfers have become so numerous and so consistent that he is three weeks behind with his work. Lawyers up here don't spend all of their time in the court house or in offices. They are leaders in the trading of lands and of course in this work they are joined by merchants, doctors and other business men who see a chance now to realize on property that heretofore appeared to them purely from a scenic standpoint.

Being from a town that depends almost entirely upon the cotton mills

WOMAN TAKES LIFE IN SALISBURY ROOM

Grace Matthews, Playing in Salisbury Troupe, Ended Her Own Life.

Salisbury, January 2.—(P)—Grace Matthews, 24-year-old member of a vaudeville troupe playing at a local theatre this week, committed suicide about 1 o'clock this morning by taking poison in her room, death resulting an hour later. No direct cause was attributed by members of the company for her act.

Traveling with the company are her father, brother, sister, brother-in-law and sister-in-law. The family home is at Syracuse, Ohio. The young woman went through her routine in the chorus and musical and acrobatic acts last night and displayed a cheerful spirit in her work. The funeral and burial will take place here Sunday afternoon.

Bar Women's Bare Knees on Stage. Birmingham, Dec. 30.—Birmingham is the only city in England where women's bare knees are barred on the stage. The Sunderland municipal censor committee has withdrawn a restriction, imposed two years ago, prohibiting women artists appearing in Sunderland theaters unless their limbs were covered with stockings or tights. This leaves Birmingham alone still enforcing its stage reform act which came into force some 16 years ago.

Brabham Decides Not to Appeal; Pays Fine. Winston-Salem, Jan. 1.—M. W. Brabham, of Nashville, Tenn., tried in municipal court Tuesday morning on a charge of violating the hotel law and fined \$25 and costs, today paid the fine and withdrew notice of appeal to the Superior court given at the time judgment was entered.

Explains Prince Carol's Differences. Milan, Italy, Jan. 2.—(P)—The Corriere della Sera says Prince Carol's differences with the Romanian cabinet regarding the military program arose from his desire to form a new party of young people based on the same principle as Italian fascism.

Ice King



This is Clas Thunberg, champion Swiss ice skater, who is now in this country seeking further laurels. He will take part in the international races to be held at the new Madison Square Garden, New York, and St. Johns, N. B.—Thunberg is called the "Nurml of the ice," which, by the way, is praise aplenty.

THE NEWSPAPER INSTITUTE

To Be Held at the State University. Chapel Hill, Jan. 2.—A number of newspaper editors and publishers of national prominence will address the Newspaper Institute to be held here January 13-15, inclusive. It was learned today when the complete program was announced. The institute is being conducted under the auspices of the North Carolina Press Association and the University extension division, department of Journalism and news bureau.

Among the speakers of national prominence coming from outside the state are Paul Patterson, publisher and executive editor of the Baltimore Star; Ole Buck, field manager of the Nebraska Press Association; Robert Lathan, editor of the Charleston News and Courier; Douglas Freeman, editor of Richmond News-Leader; M. V. Atwood, business manager of Observer-Dispatch, Utica, N. Y.; N. A. Crawford, director of the information service of the United States department of agriculture; James O'Shaughnessy, executive secretary of the American Association of Advertising Agencies.

The purpose of the institute, as stated by J. W. Atkins, president of the North Carolina Press Association, is "to depart from the customary convention program and to devote two days of intensive study to six specific newspaper problems."

The six problems to be studied are placed under the head of ethics, editorial policy, business management, advertising, special problems of the country weekly, propaganda and free publicity. After each address, as time permits, a period will be devoted to questions and open discussions.

The opening session will be held at 7:30 o'clock Wednesday night, January 13th, and the closing session at 8:40 o'clock Friday afternoon, January 15th. Headquarters will be at the Carolina Inn, where special rates are being offered those attending the institute.

Mallon Is Confident of Another Good Year. Washington, Dec. 31.—Secretary of the Treasury Mellon gave out this statement today:

"The year just closed has been a fortunate one for this country. There has been a steady improvement in general economic conditions which has been reflected in the government's finances. The treasury shows a comfortable surplus which is not only available for reductions in taxes but affords an opportunity for placing the tax system on a sound basis. The past year has also seen important developments in Europe.

"The funding agreements, which have been rushed by this country with the foreign debtor nations, will have far-reaching results, and already there are signs of improving conditions abroad which inspire confidence for the future and justify us in the belief that the year ahead of us will see continued progress toward world stabilization."

Seeks Aid of Courts. Washington, Jan. 2.—(P)—Countess Katherine Karolyi today sought the aid of the courts in her fight to gain entrance to the United States.

Through her attorney, Supreme Court a petition asking that Secretary Kellogg be forced to instruct the American consul in Paris to issue her passport.

Old \$4 Horse Wins \$26,000 in Purse. Berlin, Jan. 1.—"Poor fool," a 14 year-old nag which was sold several years ago as a cripple for \$4, has won \$26,000 in steeplechase purses during the last two seasons.

Phillips Goes to Erskine. Charlotte, Jan. 2.—Dudo Phillips, former football star of Erskine, South Carolina, College, announced here today that he had accepted the position as director of athletics at Erskine.

Robert L. Cannetax, holder of the three-cushion championship, was the only one of the national billiard champions to retain his title through 1925.

FORBES LOSES HIS APPEAL AND SOON MAY BE IN PRISON

Unless He Appeals to the United States Supreme Court He Must Soon Begin Term in Prison.

THOMPSON ALSO LOSES APPEAL

He Was Convicted Along With Forbes and Entered Appeal Along With Former Federal Officer.

Chicago, Jan. 2.—(P)—Col. Chas. R. Forbes, former director of the U. S. Veterans Bureau, today lost his appeal from conviction of conspiracy to defraud the government in connection with contracts for hospitals for disabled former soldiers. The U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed the conviction in the district court.

John W. Thompson, wealthy St. Louis contractor who was found guilty with Forbes, appealed with Forbes, and both must go to prison unless their appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court and obtain a stay of sentence to prevent their removal to Leavenworth penitentiary.

Federal Judge George Carpenter, before whom they were tried, sentenced each to two years in prison, and fined them \$10,000 each. The decision was written by Judge Evan A. Evans, who, with Judges A. B. Anderson and George T. Page, heard the appeal last November.

Among the more important assignments of error submitted by the defense were allegations that Judge Carpenter was prejudicial in his instructions to the jury, and his decisions during the trial. On behalf of Thompson, it also was alleged by his attorney that he was tricked into delivering to the grand jury incriminating papers.

WHEN CHALIAPIN SANG FOR NOTHING Postmaster Made Him Sing to Plead His Identity.

New York, Jan. 2.—The highest paid singer in the world today is the famous Russian bass, M. Chaliapin, now a member of the Metropolitan Opera Company, and who is to tour America at the head of his own company next spring. Mention of the almost fabulous salary he now receives prompted M. Chaliapin to tell an amusing story of how he was once tricked into singing for nothing.

It appears that he was applying at the post office in a certain continental town for a registered letter, but although he produced documents to prove his identity, the chief clerk was obdurate, and declined to deliver up the precious packet.

At length, however, he relented to the extent of remarking: "Well, you may be Chaliapin, as you say, but on the other hand you may not. If you are Chaliapin just sing and prove it."

As there seemed nothing else for it, Chaliapin complied and sang a well-known air. At the conclusion of his song the great singer was warmly applauded by the assembled staff. "Thank you, M. Chaliapin," said the clerk, as he handed over the letter. "Of course we knew you all right, but it seemed too good a chance to miss."

CONFESSES TO THEFT OF MONEY IN BANK Guy L. Baker Says He Took \$16,000 From Bank in Putnam, Conn.

Hartford, Conn., Jan. 2.—(P)—Guy L. Baker, former assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Putnam, of which former State Treasurer G. Harold Gilpatrick, was cashier, walked into the office of U. S. District Attorney John Buckley today, and confessed to the theft of \$16,000 from the funds of the bank. He submitted to arrest, explaining his confession was for the purpose of assuming his share of the responsibility for the wrecking of the bank.

Gilpatrick, whose misuse of funds of the bank closed the institution and wiped out the trust funds, now is serving a sentence at Atlanta. He was denied a Christmas pardon.

Call For Reports of National Banks. Washington, Jan. 2.—(P)—The comptroller of the currency today issued a call for the condition of all national banks at the close of business on Thursday, December 31st.

—1926— SOMETHING TO REMEMBER No Dealer in Concord Sells Coal for Less than I do. Best Furnace Coal \$8.00 to \$11.00. Best Grate and Stove Coal \$8.00 to \$9.00. Best Steam Coal \$4.00 to \$7.50. Best Gas House Coke—Made in Concord \$8.50. Start the New Year Right by Purchasing Your Coal where you can get QUALITY and SERVICE.

A. B. POUNDS

Fair tonight, Sunday, increasing cloudiness followed by rain in west portion; not much change in temperature. Moderate west winds.

Medals? He's Got 'Em



This is Faty La Bauve of Lake Charles, La., one of the ranking Boy Scouts of the country. His first name just misses being "Fatty," but he has just won his 61st scout medal.

GREAT ACTIVITY IN TEXTILES PROMISED

C. Singleton Green, Secretary of Yarn Spinners Association, Sees Fine Business in 1926.

Charlotte, Dec. 2.—(P)—A forecast of great activity in the cotton spinning industry of the southern states, beginning soon after the "January inventory period" is passed, "within the next few weeks," was made today by C. Singleton Green, secretary of the Southern Yarn Spinners' Association, with headquarters here.

Prices at this time are substantially higher than they were a year ago, Mr. Green declared. "The present level," he said, "has been maintained by timely curtailment of production and the regulation of operation in accordance with the volume of demand."

Mr. Green added that the present stocks of yarn in America are at a low level and that he was unable to forecast how long this anticipated period of spinning activity will continue, but said it would "probably last several months at least."

With Our Advertisers. Goodyear tires, the old reliable at York & Wadsworth Co.

Portulac, hyacinths, tulips, daffodils, narcissus, crocus, Lily of the valley, violets at Pearl Drug Co. Phon 22 or 122.

General new styles in blond kid, both pumps and straps, at Ruth-Kessler Shoe Store, only \$5.95. Do you need money? Investigate the weekly payment loan plan of the Citizens Bank and Trust Co. See ad. in this paper.

To Investigate Alleged Rubber Monopoly. Washington, Jan. 2.—(P)—The House commerce committee expects to begin its investigation of the alleged monopoly on crude rubber by the British colonial governments next Tuesday. Secretary Hoover is expected to be the first witness.

Call For Reports of National Banks. Washington, Jan. 2.—(P)—The comptroller of the currency today issued a call for the condition of all national banks at the close of business on Thursday, December 31st.

MAJOR GENERAL W. AT, Q. M. OF THE ARMY, IS DEAD

Officer Dead at the Walter Reed Hospital, Where He Had Been Undergoing Treatment.

HELD HIGH POSTS WITH THE ARMY

Was Quartermaster of the Base Sections of St. Nazaire, France, During Part of the World War.

Washington, Jan. 2.—Major General William A. Hart, quartermaster general of the army, died early today at Walter Reed Hospital here.

He was operated on two weeks ago for what it was feared was a cancerous growth. For a time he had appeared to be convalescing. He was in his 62nd year.

General Hart was appointed quartermaster general in August, 1922, on the retirement of Major General Harry L. Rogers. General Rogers died in Philadelphia but a short time ago, after having preferred charges against General Hart alleging improper methods of procuring his appointment. The charges were found at the war department not to warrant any proceedings.

General Hart was a native of Winona, Minn., but was appointed to the Military Academy from North Dakota, graduating in 1888. He served as an infantry and cavalry officer until 1900 when he became a captain in the commissary department. He was transferred to the quartermaster corps on the consolidation of the supply and pay services of the army in 1912.

During the World War he was quartermaster of the base sections at St. Nazaire, France, and after the war was supply officer at Boston, San Francisco and depot quartermaster at Norfolk before he came to Washington for duty.

General Hart was unmarried and had no near relatives. Since he was taken ill his senior assistant, Brigadier General John B. Bellingr, has been acting quartermaster general. The other two assistants are Brigadier Generals Alfred C. Dalton and Moses G. Zalinski.

The quartermaster corps has been beset by factional differences ever since the World War, and it would cause little surprise if Secretary Davis of the war department, in line with his announced purpose to compel teamwork in every branch of the army, recommended appointment as quartermaster general of some officer outside the corps itself.

SAYS REP. LANGLEY PROBABLY CONVICTED Solicitor General Asks Supreme Court Not to Review the Case.

Washington, Jan. 2.—(P)—Representative John W. Langley, of Kentucky, recently convicted in that state of violating the prohibition law "had a fair trial and was properly convicted," Solicitor General Mitchell advised the Supreme Court today in asking that it refuse to review the case.

A brief on behalf of the federal government, the solicitor general took the position that the Kentucky congressman had been deprived of no constitutional rights and that his case presented nothing that would take it out of the clause of "ordinary criminal conspiracy cases."

Southern Railway Earnings. New York, Jan. 1.—Southern Railway's net operating income after taxes for the month of November of \$3,221,000 again exceeds that of any corresponding month in its history. Net after taxes for the first eleven months of 1925 of \$32,041,000 also exceeds all previous records for the eleven months' period.

The gross operating revenue for November was \$12,659,000—an increase of 5.14 per cent over November, 1924. Gross for the eleven months is \$135,726,000—an increase of 4.52 per cent over the corresponding period of last year.

Jack Root, who accumulated about \$50,000 during his ring career and has since approached the millionaire class as a result of his successful theatrical and other business ventures in southern California, was a stone mason by trade before he took up the boxing game.

When a long hair doesn't make a man look intellectual is when his wife picks it off his coat. Tact is getting back the engagement ring without asking for it.

SAT'S BEAR SAYS:



Fair tonight, Sunday, increasing cloudiness followed by rain in west portion; not much change in temperature. Moderate west winds.

START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT

A New Savings Quarter Begins January 1st

All deposits made on or before January 10th will draw interest from the first at 4 per cent.

COMPOUNDED QUARTERLY

The Concord National Bank

Capital \$100,000.00 Surplus \$175,000.00