

### Speakership Fight No Nearer Solution And Interest Stays High

With Caucus Set for Tonight Supporters for the Three Candidates Keep Up Battle to Win Votes.

OTHER CONTESTS TO BE DECIDED

None Expected to Attract as Much Attention as the Fight Between Connor, Townsend and Fountain.

Raleigh, Jan. 4.—(AP)—Crowded lobbies and close consultations carried the campaign for the speakership through today and into tonight's scheduled Democratic caucus of House members to select the speaker for the 1927 Legislature.

The House hall in the capitol at 8 o'clock tonight was the center toward which all interest pointed, for from the speaker would come the appointment of House committees and in the committee lie the guidance of legislative machinery.

H. G. Connor, Jr., of Wilson; N. A. Townsend, of Dunn, and R. T. Fountain, of Rocky Mount, were the three candidates openly in the field, and their backers all claimed victory. No outward signs of yielding support or compromise was in the air.

Virtually all lawmakers had arrived, with a few stragglers coming tonight's caucus seemed likely. To nominate, equivalent to election at tomorrow's opening session, 53 votes were required. With the three candidates not voting, 51 votes would put the House leader over.

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#### TREASURY SURPLUS SHOWS INCREASE OVER PREVIOUS YEAR

Washington, Jan. 4.—(AP)—The Treasury ended the first half of the fiscal year with a surplus of \$218,270,000, compared with \$125,500,000 for the same period a year ago.

Income tax and customs receipts flowing and during the last quarter in increasing amounts accounted for the excess.

During the year ending December 31st the Treasury reduced the public debt by \$1,372,204,301, to a total of \$19,074,696,337. Of the reduction \$14,353,900 was accomplished during the last month.

Customs receipts for the first six months of the present fiscal year amounted to \$202,621,815 a year ago. A total of \$48,431,263 was collected from customs in December, or \$2,000,000 more than last December.

#### PINCHOT IN FINAL MESSAGE ATTACKS WILLIAM S. VARE

Retiring Governor of Pennsylvania Says Vare's Nomination Was Made by Unlawful Means.

"PARTLY BOUGHT, PARTLY STOLEN"

"Mellon Machine" and the "Mitten Machine" Also Were Assailed by Governor in Message.

Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 4.—(AP)—Chargers that Senator-Elect William S. Vare's Republican nomination for that office was "partly bought and partly stolen" were made by Governor Gifford Pinchot in his final message to the Pennsylvania Legislature today.

The "Mellon machine" in Pittsburgh and the "Mitten machine" were assailed by the governor.

Declaring he had refused to support Vare in the elections for that reason, Governor Pinchot said: "I have no doubt that Vare deserves to be and will be excluded from the Senate, but whether he is or not, the mere fact that a Senator-elect from Pennsylvania is in danger of losing his seat because of scandalous expenditures in the primary and notorious cheating in the election is a bitter disgrace to this Commonwealth."

Governor Pinchot opposed Senator-elect Vare and Senator George Wharton Pepper in the primaries, Vargaining the nomination by votes rolled up in Philadelphia, his home.

Two "political machines," the "Mellon machine" in Pittsburgh and the "Mitten machine" in Philadelphia, he said, "spread their black hawk-like shadows over the community borne upon the wings of eminent respectability and organized crime."

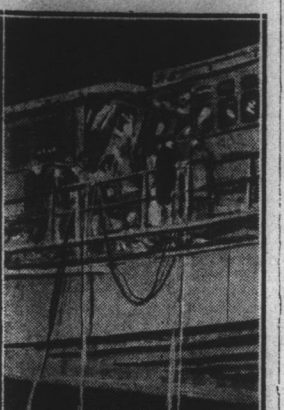
Gould Counsel Challenges Senate Authority.

Washington, Jan. 4.—(AP)—Counsel for Senator G. M. McLean, Maine, today challenged the authority of the Senate to investigate charges growing out of an alleged payment by a Canadian official in connection with a "bunko" contract "foreign" years ago.

Wealthy Farmer Dead.

Hendersonville, Jan. 4.—(AP)—M. M. Britton, considered one of the wealthiest residents of Henderson county, was found dead in a field late yesterday afternoon on his big farm near here. Physicians said he had been dead about four hours, and that heart disease apparently was the cause of death. He was 75 years old. Funeral services will be held tomorrow.

#### Crash in Air



Two elevated trains crashed into each other in Queens County, N. Y. Nine persons were injured.

(International Newscrop)

#### DUKE ESTATE NEAR \$90,000,000 WHEN BENEFACTOR DIED

This Shown in Petition for First Accounting Today Filed in Surrogate Court in Somerville, N. J.

TOTAL REDUCED SINCE HIS DEATH

More Than \$30,000,000 Has Been Paid in Expenses, Trust Funds and Legacies, Records Indicate.

Somerville, N. J., Jan. 4.—(AP)—The estate of the late Jas. B. Duke, tobacco manufacturer, was worth \$89,704,850.96 at the time of his death, according to a petition for a first accounting filed in surrogate court today. Money paid out for taxes, administration expenses, legacies and trust funds since Mr. Duke's death in 1925 cut the value to \$53,451,778.70.

Legacies were paid and trust funds set up to the amount of \$30,253,050, while taxes and the administration of the estate cost \$9,957,710.

The bulk of the estate or \$62,443,383, was made up of stocks and miscellaneous bonds, while \$18,905,700 was invested in government, state and municipal bonds.

Cash, notes and accounts receivable totaled \$4,234,634.

The executors are Mr. Duke's widow, Nanaline H. Duke and Geo. C. Allen and William P. Perkins.

SEEKING WAYS TO AID VETERANS AFTER LOANS

CAN STATE LEVY TAX ON RAILROAD INCOME?

Special Tribunal Now Sitting in Columbia, S. C., in Case Brought by the Southern Railway.

Columbia, S. C., Jan. 4.—(AP)—Arguments for and against the state's right to levy tax on a portion of the Southern Railway Company's income from its interstate business were made here today before a tribunal composed of three United States District judges.

Sitting with Judge Ernest F. Cochran of this district are Judges H. H. Hawkins of Anderson, and E. S. Parker of Graham, N. C.

The amount involved is \$309,045 interest included, which was assessed against the railroad company by the state, but about one-half of the banks today before a tribunal composed of three United States District judges.

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#### ELMA STARTS ON TRIP BUT FORCED TO CALL FOR AID

Wilmington, Jan. 4.—(AP)—In response to distress calls from the former rim ship Elma, which was going to the west Indies on Tuesday afternoon bound for Jacksonville, Fla., the Elma, purchased under court order by George Linton, of New York, was to go to Charleston, to be reconditioned, and thence to Jacksonville, where she was to be put in commercial service.

#### PROHIBITION AGAIN IN CONGRESS AS BOTH BRANCHES ACT

Senate Asks Secretary Mellon for Correspondence He Had With Wheeler About Poison in Alcohol.

SEN. EDWARDS IS DEMANDING ACTION

Question Precipitated by Agitation That Developed Over Poisoned Alcohol During Holidays.

Washington, Jan. 4.—(AP)—The post-holiday outburst of prohibition agitation again overran both the Senate and House today.

Within a few minutes after it convened, the Senate adopted the resolution of Senator Edwards, Democrat, New Jersey, calling upon Secretary Mellon for any correspondence between the treasury and the Anti-Saloon League with respect to the poisoning of industrial alcohol.

At the same time the House amid loud applause was listening to a speech in which Representative Underhill, Republican, Massachusetts, denied the statement of Representative Celler, Democrat, New York, that congressional "drink and drink to excess."

The Edwards resolution went through the Senate without discussion, but immediately afterward there was a burst of debate into which Senator Hefflin, Democrat, Alabama, took part. He charged that Underhill had mentioned in his speech yesterday the recent Alabama incident involving the arrest of former Governor Brandon while on a hunting party. The charge against Brandon later was dismissed.

The Edwards resolution among other things calls for copies of the laws under which the treasury has required the poisoning of industrial alcohol, and Senator Sheppard, Democrat, Texas, a dry leader, protested after adoption against the language employed in the text of the measure. Industrial alcohol itself is "poison," said the Texas senator, and "you can't poison poison."

DUKE OPENS FOR THIRD TIME AS YOUNG UNIVERSITY

Indenture Creating Enlarged Institution Signed in 1924. Trinity Students Returned to New "Duke" in '25.

Durham, Jan. 4.—More than 1,600 students returned to Duke university yesterday and early this morning to begin class work for 1927. It was the third year that the institution formerly known as Trinity college has operated as a part of Duke university, the indenture which created the new university having been signed by the late James B. Duke on December 11. Students who left Trinity college in December, 1924, returned from their Christmas vacations to Duke University, January 1925.

The interval between December 23, 1926, and January 3, 1927, saw the Duke campus practically deserted, only about 75 students remaining during the winter season. Many of these students were guests of President and Mrs. Few at a Christmas vacation given a short time ago, at which time there was a gathering of representatives of numerous foreign countries, Chinese, Japanese, Hawaiian, and other nationalities were representatives, and students from the west coast, from the extreme northwest, and from the lower south were present, making the party a cosmopolitan affair.

It will be a long grind between now and the next official holiday recess, the Easter holidays beginning on April 14.

SMITH CONTEST AGAIN IS BEFORE THE SENATE

Senator McKellar Says When Credentials Are Presented They Should Not Be Accepted.

Washington, Jan. 4.—(AP)—Discussion of the Smith senatorial contest was renewed in the Senate today by Senator McKellar, Democrat, of Tennessee, who said that when Frank L. Smith presents his credentials with "unclean hands" he should be excluded.

"We already have the proof taken in this very case," said Senator McKellar after reviewing the testimony before the senate campaign funds committee. "This proof overturns any regularity in credentials. The Senate should not hesitate, but it should immediately exclude Smith so that the great state of Illinois may appoint a man to come to the senate for the time being whose hands are clean, and whose selection does not grow out of one of the most corrupt campaigns that ever took place in any state."

Senator McKellar called attention particularly to the contributions to the Smith campaign by Samuel Insull, the traction magnate.

University Winter Quarter Is Opened.

Chapel Hill, Jan. 3.—The university of North Carolina opened its winter quarter today with an enrollment that increases by approximately 100 the registration for the fall quarter which was 2,314. This carries the total of resident students for the present scholastic year beyond 2,400, and means that, with others to be added with the spring quarter opening, the total for the nine-month period will be around 2,500.

#### EXPECT BANKS WILL MAKE SOLDIER LOANS

Only About Half of Banks Have Shown Inclination to Loan on Insurance Certificates.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Confidence was expressed by the administration today that most of the banks soon would make loans on the soldier insurance certificates as steps were considered in Congress for authorizing the veterans' bureau to loan on this collateral.

Although reports received by the veterans bureau indicated only about one half of the banks were accepting the certificates which acquired a loan today, Secretary Mellon expressed the belief the banks would soon turn to those loans as a "business proposition."

The adjusted service certificate fund was increased today by \$123,000,000 to a total of \$400,000,000. All of this is pledged to the certificates which will have an estimated loan value of \$2,000,000.

There is no chance for the banks to lose on the certificate loans, Mr. Mellon explained. If the war veterans failed to repay the loans, the Veterans bureau will make them good, cutting this sum from the value of the certificate finally due the veteran.

DORIS DUKE SEEKS TO STOP SALE OF HOME

Daughter of Tobacco Magnate Asks For Early Trial of Her Case.

New York, Jan. 4.—Doris Duke, fourteen-year-old daughter of the late James Duke, who died last week, today submitted through her attorney, Charles E. Hughes, Jr., a motion for an early trial of the suit brought by her in Supreme Court to prevent the sale of the Duke residence here.

The application was received by Justice Tierny.

The girl and her mother, Mrs. Nanaline Duke, inherited the bulk of the \$30,000,000 estate left by Duke. Under the terms of the will, Mrs. Duke received a life interest in the residence which is assessed at \$1,000,000. Upon her death the property goes to the daughter.

The daughter has elected to take the property as her own, subject to the life interest of her mother, and opposes a sale of the property as a "vain and useless proceeding," since she would be in a position to outbid prospective purchasers.

#### Governor McLean To Deliver His Annual Message Thursday

with the exception of Pete Murphy, of Salisbury, have signed the majority report goes the report of the budget commission. Since Murphy failed to attend a single session of the commission, he has thus prevented the possibility of his filing a minority report.

And while this message of the Governor as executive director of the budget and report of the advisory commission are expected to contain much that will be of vital interest to the taxpayers of the state, setting forth as they do in such detail the facts relating to the fiscal affairs of the state, the two bills which will be submitted at the same time, the appropriations and revenue bills, are expected to prove of almost as much importance to the fiscal affairs of the state.

The two bills which will be submitted at the same time, the interest, and in some quarters, perhaps more. For in the appropriations bill, the various state institutions and spending agencies will learn just how much of the money they asked for has been recommended, and in the revenue bill will be found the answer to how the increased revenue is to be obtained, and at whose expense.

"I have never worked harder on anything in my life than on this fiscal message and budget report," Governor McLean said in discussing it, "and the members of the budget commission have worked equally as hard. The result is that we think we have compiled sufficient information that will answer almost any question about the state that anyone can ask. We also hope that the people of the state as a whole will take an interest in this work and go into it carefully and try to understand what we have done."

That it is not very probable that all of the institutions and departments will get all they have asked for in the way of appropriations is generally taken for granted, although a considerable increase in the equalization fund for the public schools of the state is expected and has been predicted. And while the University has been conducting an intensive pre-legislative lobby among its alumni in all sections of the state for many weeks, it is thought very unlikely that it will get all it wants.

There will probably be some slight adjustments of rates in the revenue bill, with the chief boost in rates in the inheritance tax brackets.

#### Evangelists Will Meet at Junaluska

Lake Junaluska, Jan. 4.—(AP)—Voicing their approval of the Methodist southern assembly here, and pledging their support to its platform, the general evangelists of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in annual conference at Nashville, Tenn., last month, accepted the invitation extended by Bishop James Cannon, Jr., one of the assembly's commissioners, to hold an evangelistic conference here next summer and appointed a committee to confer with assembly officials in preparing a program.

Decision to hold an evangelistic conference at Lake Junaluska between August 15th and 20th, was made at the closing session of the annual meeting of evangelists and the following committee was appointed to meet with representatives of the southern assembly: Dr. Arthur J. Moore, pastor First Methodist Church, Birmingham, Ala.; Rev. Lovick P. Lav, Siloam Springs, Ark.; Dr. Burke Culpepper, Memphis, Tenn.; and the Rev. Luther Bruggers, Gainesville, Ga. The evangelists passed resolutions urging all of the general evangelists of the church and evangelistic singers, more than 100 in each group, to make every possible effort to attend the Bible conference at Lake Junaluska.

#### THE COTTON MARKET

Opened Steady at Unchanged Prices to Decline of 5 Points.

New York, Jan. 4.—(AP)—The cotton market opened steady today at unchanged prices to a decline of 5 points under a little more Southern hedging and local selling attributed to relatively easy Liverpool cables, and reports of continued good weather in the South.

Some trade buying and covering at the decline steadied the market, but prices were within a point or two of the lowest at the end of the first hour, active market showing net declines of 2 to 4 points. March sold off to 12.62 and July to 13.01.

Private cables reported hedging and continental liquidation absorbed by trade calling, with a more cheerful feeling in Manchester, and fair sales of cotton cloth in India.

Cotton futures opened steady: January 12.45; March 12.65; May 12.83; July 13.02; October 13.22.

Normal Condition Again in Nashville.

Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 3.—Conditions in Nashville gradually were returning to normal tonight as flood waters from the Cumberland river continued to recede. Many persons forced to flee have returned to their homes. The last official reading today placed the stage of the river at 54.5 feet, a drop of two-tenths of a foot in five hours.

Meanwhile, various organized campaigns initiated in an effort to raise \$50,000 for use in relief work were reported to be progressing satisfactorily. The Davidson county court voted to add to the extent of \$15,000.

Orders for food, fuel and clothing were issued to many more refugees by officials of the county charities commission.

French Overcome Insurrection in Syria.

Beirut, Syria, Jan. 4.—(AP)—French cavalry have routed a strong contingent of insurrectionists who left 25 dead on the field.

The dissidents were in command of Ali Attrache, a close relative of the Druse chieftain, Sultan Attrache, who led last year's uprising. All Attrache escaped capture only through the marvellous speed of his horse.

#### With Our Advertisers.

Mary Astor and Lloyd Hughes, in "Forever After" at the Concord Theatre today. Tomorrow, is "Family Day." Admission 10 cents to all. The picture on tomorrow is "Pal's First."

The Cabarrus Savings Bank today publishes its statement as of December 31, 1926. It shows resources of over three million dollars, which is evidence of the growth and soundness of this institution.

Ask the builders of this town about the lumber sold by E. L. Morrison Lumber Co. See new ad today.

Robinson's Annual January Clearance is still going on. Dresses are offered in three groups at \$7.95, \$11.95 and \$17.95. Coats at half price. Millinery at \$1.00, \$1.95, \$2.95.

The Standard Buick Co. has five used cars for sale or exchange. See list in new ad today.

Cherry Bark Cough Syrup, for sale at Gibson Drug Store, contains no narcotics or alcohol and does not upset the stomach.

W. A. Overcash is now having a sale of Overcash and Top Coats. The prices range from \$13.95 to \$38.25. Men's suits reduced 25 per cent.

The Ritchie Hardware Co. has reduced prices on bicycle tires and tubes. See the quotations in new ad today.

"Charley Ross" to Appeal For Help, Denver, Jan. 4.—Destitute, but still hopeful because of new evidence he has unearthed, Charley B. Ross, local carpenter, will renew his fight to establish his right to the name of the Philadelphia millionaire's kidnapped son as soon as he can secure funds to push his claims, he said today.

The nature of this new evidence the Denver man did not disclose but it is "new and startling proof" he said. He is now in Sulphur Springs, Fla., writing a book on his forty years search for a birthright. During his investigation, he said, and on his recent trip to Philadelphia when he presented his claims to the Ross family, he has completely exhausted his finances. He will now appeal to the public for aid, he said, and intends to repay any assistance given him when his book is completed.

Ross, until he became convinced that he was the long lost Charley Ross, was known as Julius C. Hanger.

Most actors prefer a small role to an entire loaf.

#### Truck Hits White Way Post Breaking Lights

A truck, said to have belonged to L. H. Sides, contractor, and to have been driven by Vaudrey Lowder, ran into a white way post at the intersection of Depot and Union streets today at 11:30 a. m.

Very little damage was done to the post but the four lights were knocked to the ground and broken.

It was said the bed of the truck body hit the post when the driver of the truck failed to give himself sufficient room on which to pass the post.

#### Daugherty-Miller Rehearing.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.—Motion for rehearing in the move to quash the indictment of Harry M. Daugherty, former attorney general, and Thomas W. Miller, former alien property custodian, for conspiracy to defraud the government is docketed to come up in federal court today. Counsel for Miller bases his motion on a recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States that the three-year period of limitations holds good in conspiracy to escape the payment of income tax. The case against Daugherty and Miller was possible because of the six-year statute of limitations.

The poor may always be with us, but the miser is closer.

#### HEAVY RAINS MEANS BIG SAVINGS IN TIMBER

More Rain However, Would Be Beneficial to the Forests.

Tribune Bureau  
 Sir Walter Hotel

Raleigh, Jan. 4.—Heavy general rains of last week will mean a saving of thousands of dollars to timber owners through the prevention of forest fires, C. H. Flory, district forester for the fourth district, was made today to Wade H. Phillips, director of the Department of Conservation and Development.

Although the rains have been greatly beneficial, District Forester Flory reported, more fall would soak the forest soil to a greater extent and would be helpful.

Before the rains of the last week, declared District Forester Flory there had not been a heavy precipitation since last summer, and as a result the forest fires in the eastern part of the state were greater in number during the fall than for some years, November experiencing the peak.

So dry has been the eastern section of the state that lumbering operations have been carried on in some of the swamps for the first time in a score of years.

As a result of the forest fires, the service has been usually active during the fall months. The number of wardens was extended. Operations of the fields forces have prevented the spread of the fires, and have saved valuable timber.

The district forester reports that many counties in the section which have not heretofore co-operated with the State Forest Service in forest fire prevention work are planning to do so this year. Many large landowners are also making preparations to join the co-operating forces during 1927.

#### Muselman Tribes Incensed Over Condemnation of Six Insurgents

Belgrade, Juglo Slavia, Jan. 4.—(AP)—A new revolt of Muselman tribes in Albania has broken out, reports received here today state.

The insurrection was the result of the condemnation yesterday at Scutari of six insurgents, who took part in a recent outbreak which was put down by government troops. The new insurgents are members of the Puka, Shalja and Strupa tribes, which with four others have already raised their standards.

Informed circles in Belgrade consider the rising serious.

Town Without Commercial Food Supply.

Wisnams, Alaska, Jan. 4.—(AP)—Wisnams' population of about 100 was without a commercial food supply today as the result of a fire which destroyed the only store in town yesterday. The loss was \$40,000. Food is being sent here from Beetles, fifty miles distant.

#### WEATHER FORECAST.

Fair tonight and Wednesday, slightly colder tonight. Fresh to strong west and northwest winds.