

WILL COMPROMISE BILL IN EVOLUTION BE INTRODUCED?

One Fundamental Faction Has Become Skeptical of the Constitutionality of the Poole Bill.

HEARING TO BE ON FEBRUARY 10

It Is Claimed That Petitions for the Poole Bill Have Been Secured in Cabarrus County.

(By International News Service) Raleigh, Feb. 4.—Poised ostentatiously at the door of the house education committee, North Carolina's proposed anti-evolution legislation today became the source of new political rumblings.

One fundamental faction, which has lately become skeptical of the constitutionality of the drastic Poole bill, is considering the introduction of compromise legislation before the Poole bill hearing on February 10th, according to reports which have gained wide currency here.

Meanwhile, reports emanating from Statesville, the unofficial headquarters of the former "Committee of 100," are to the effect that the organization, which is sponsoring the Poole bill, is bringing up reinforcements for a battle royal over the spasmoid issue.

The Poole bill, which would provide a prison sentence for any school teacher convicted of teaching the so-called evolution theory in a state-supported school, is expected to have the staunch support of the entire fundamentalist organization, however.

The compromise bill, which is scheduled for early introduction in the house, would require every applicant for the office of school teacher in North Carolina to sign a pledge that the applicant "believes in the being of Almighty God."

But some who may be in the way of a compromise bill, the Raeford editor and his supporters are all set to ignite a modernist-fundamentalist contest that might temporarily overshadow all pecuniary legislation, according to one of the fundamentalist organization's spokesmen.

Undaunted by "meddlesome" members of the general assembly and forecasts pro and con, the North Carolina Bible League—the outgrowth of the famous "committee of 100" that championed the 1925 Poole bill—is planning a "fight to the finish" when the hearing of the Poole bill is held on February 10th, according to reports from the organization's headquarters.

These same reports have it that the Bible League is now active collecting hundreds of petitions with which it will flood the general assembly. Already these petitions have gone forth, it was said, and from one county alone—Cabarrus—it was boasted that 1,000 names were obtained.

The petitions are literally pouring into the organization's headquarters, it was claimed. Already there is a suitcase full of petitions on display in the offices of the Bible League, according to reports reaching here from Statesville.

The petition campaign will be continued until the hearing on the Poole bill this month, it was declared. "With 90 per cent. of the people of North Carolina firm believers in the Bible, we do not intend that the other 10 per cent. shall dictate what is to be taught in our schools," was the ultimatum one official of the Bible League was quoted as declaring.

The "compromise" bill in the candy automobile registration proposal will not be introduced in the senate by Senator Harry Blount, of Pitt, until definite action is taken on the Candy bill.

The Pitt senator made that much clear today when he openly came out in favor of the Blount bill which would change the automobile registration date from June 30th to December 31st.

A public hearing on the proposed bill requiring theater owners to provide both front and rear fire escapes in their amusement houses is scheduled for Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock, it was revealed here today.

The proposed bill, which is being sponsored by the State insurance department, is expected to be introduced in the house by Senator Younce, Guilford, at an early date.

Representative Harrison Yelverton, of Wayne county, is going to introduce a bill.

He said so himself. He's going to break his record for not contributing a single bill to the house hopper during his term of service.

During the entire session of the 1925 legislature the Wayne representative did not introduce a bill. He has now so far this term. However, he is going to introduce an "important" bill within the next few days, he said.

The Legislative Manual is expected to be off the press within the next few days, containing biographies of every member of the two houses.

Collections of gasoline taxes, automobile licenses and title registration fees are coming in faster this year than they did last year.

This information was contained in figures furnished today by the automobile bureau of the State department of revenue.

COMPROMISE ROAD BILL IS TO HAVE A FAVORABLE REPORT

Gives Highway Commission Power to Locate, Change, Abandon or Substitute.

PROVISIONS COVER THE OBJECTIONS

The Commission Will Have No Power to Change or Alter Roads That Are Already Constructed.

Raleigh, Feb. 4.—A bill which would be reported favorably either today or tomorrow giving the highway commission power to locate, change, alter, abandon or substitute roads for any section of the state highway system now maintained—but with a number of provisions which so far seem to cover all the objections that were originally voiced against the Smith-Hargett bill.

The principal objection was that it would give the highway commission authority to abandon, change or alter roads already constructed and made part of the state highway system. And upon this peg the question hung for several days.

However, the two differing factions have at last been brought together, largely through the mollifying efforts of H. G. Connor, Jr., of Wilson, who refused to admit that the question could not be arbitrated and both sides satisfied. As a result of his efforts, with the able assistance of the other members of the sub-committee named to work out a compromise bill, the present measure has been evolved with the provisions that now seem to remove the objections of the opposition and which at the same time goes a long way toward giving the highway commission greater freedom of action locating and taking over roads and making them a part of the highway system.

The first safeguarding proviso makes it plain that the highway commission cannot reduce the number of highways entering the corporate limits of any county, town or city or town—without the consent of the street governing body of the city or town—which means without the approval of the town itself. Thus no two roads that now enter a city or town over different streets could be combined into one "stem" road outside the city limits and made to enter the town over one street, unless the governing body of the town agreed to the plan.

The second important proviso sets forth that no portion of the state highway system which has "heretofore or which shall hereafter be located and constructed in accordance with the plans of the highway commission" shall be changed or abandoned without the full consent of the road governing body of the county or counties involved.

The third proviso, applying to all roads not included under the first and second provisos, and over the wording of which the bill is temporarily being held up, and without reference to any way these first provisions, states that before any road not included under provisos one and two, can be changed or altered, and if objections are made, a hearing before three members of the highway commission will be held.

An appeal may be taken from the hearing to the entire highway commission, whose decision will be final.

Counties will be permitted to relinquish abandoned sections of state highways into the county system, as the counties may deem desirable, the bill further sets forth.

Some of the stiffest opposition to the original Smith-Hargett bill came from Robeson county and Catawba county, where Newton and Lumber town feared that the law might become retro-active and nullify the supreme court decisions in these two noted cases. In order to reassure these people, the further provision has been added that changes and alterations made by the highway commission under the enactment of the bill, are duly ratified, with the exception of any portions that may now be subject to litigation, although it does make legal all the actions of the highway commission which heretofore have not been questioned in the courts.

The final provisions of the act make it impossible for any action to be taken against the highway commission in the courts with regard to the location or abandonment of roads, since it makes the entire membership of the highway commission the court of last resort. Thus the possibility of further restraining orders and suits is eliminated.

Real Strike in Portugal. Lisbon, Portugal, Feb. 4.—(AP)—A general strike was declared this morning on the state railways in southern and southeastern Portugal. The government is taking measures to avoid paralysis of traffic.

Ten Pages Today Two Sections

GROVE WILL LEAVE BULK OF ESTATE TO MEMBERS OF FAMILY

Will of Estate Valued at About \$10,000,000 Filed for Probate Late Thursday Afternoon.

DIVIDES BULK IN EQUAL PARTS

If Any Beneficiary Contests Will His or Her Part Is Revoked.—Leaves Some Funds to Charity.

Asheville, Feb. 4.—(AP)—Direction that the Buncombe county properties of the late E. W. Grove "be not put on the market and sold as a whole or in part, but be handled and sold as during my lifetime" was given in Mr. Grove's will, filed in probate court in St. Louis late yesterday. This information was contained in a special dispatch from St. Louis received today by the Asheville Times.

Mr. Grove's will, bequeathing an estate estimated in value at \$10,000,000, directed that the bulk of the estate be held in trust for the equal benefit of his widow, Mrs. Gertrude Grove, of St. Louis; his daughter, Mrs. Evelyn Grove (Fred L.) Seely, of Asheville; and his son, Edwin W. Grove, Jr., of St. Louis.

The document named the St. Louis Trust Company and E. W. Grove, Jr., as executors and trustees. It provided that "in event of a contest during the life of this trust by any beneficiary or prospective beneficiary, the income or gift to him or her under this will is hereby revoked."

The will was dated June 11, 1921, and contains three codicils, the latest one dated January 30, 1926.

Among the minor bequests were the following: A lifetime monthly allowance of \$500 to Mrs. Margaret Grove (Kenneth) Wood, of Columbus, Ohio, who lived with the Groves virtually as an adopted daughter from infancy until her marriage some four years ago; \$50 a month to the Rev. B. M. Taylor, of Bentonville, Ark., "in recognition of his ever kind consideration of my father"; \$10,000 each Sunday, and \$500 additional annually to Kings Highway Baptist Church, Asheville, N. C., for a period of five years; and \$1,000 a year to the Provident Association, of St. Louis.

GROVE'S WILL PUTS HIS ESTATE IN TRUST

Income Divided Equally Between Widow, Son and Daughter. Worth Over \$10,000,000.

St. Louis, Feb. 3.—The will of the late Edwin W. Grove, multimillionaire president of the Paris Medicine company, of St. Louis, filed in probate court here today, provides that the bulk of his estate, valued at more than \$10,000,000, is to be placed in trust, the income to be shared equally by three members of his family.

Groves died of pneumonia at Asheville, N. C., January 27. The members of his family named in the instrument are: Mrs. Gertrude Groves, his wife; Edwin W. Grove, Jr., his son and a daughter, Mrs. Evelyn Grove Seely. Upon their death, the income is to go to their descendants.

WHEELING AND LAKE ERIE STOCK AGAIN UP

Common Soared to New High Record of 84, With Preferred Only 3 Points Lower.

New York, Feb. 4.—(AP)—Spectacular fluctuations in the shares of Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad took place on the New York Stock Exchange today as authorities extended their investigations into reports of a technical "corner" in the common and preferred issues.

The common, after opening two points lower, at 71, soared to a new high record for all time at 84, compared with a low of 27 1/2 last month. The preferred moved up 3 points to a new high of 81. A report of daily transactions in both issues has been asked by the Business Conduct committee of the exchange.

Dawes Invited to Chapel Hill. Chapel Hill, Feb. 4.—(INS)—Vice-President Charles G. Dawes has been invited to address the annual meeting of the National Association of Alumni Secretaries, which will be held here April 28-30. It was announced here today.

A tentative list of speakers for the convention was announced as follows: President Hopkins, of Dartmouth; Hamilton Holt, former Editor of the Independent, now president of Rollins College, Florida; Christie Meade, secretary of the New York Merchants Association, and R. V. Cartwright, secretary of the Carnegie Corporation, New York.

Star Theatre

Your Last Chance To See "THE NERVOUS WRECK"

Showed to Packed House Last Night

All Claiming Best Picture of the Season

See HAROLD LLOYD MONDAY and TUESDAY

Immense Advantage of Establishment Of the Great Smokey Mountain Park

By J. C. BASKERVILLE. Raleigh, Feb. 4.—With the only area ever approved by the National Park Service as being worthy of development as a national park, between the Mississippi and the Atlantic ocean, within its borders, and with the Federal government not only willing but anxious to establish this park, is North Carolina going to let this opportunity to establish a mecca for millions slip away?

This, in the final analysis, was the fundamental question presented to the members of the general assembly by the two members of the Southern Appalachian Park Commission and by the acting director of the National Park project yesterday, and in which they pictured the tremendous advantages that will eventually accrue to the state as a whole—not just one section of it—from the establishment of the park.

Realizing that the principal appeal for the establishment of the park must be an economic one, expressed in dollars and cents, the speakers dwelt but lightly on the aesthetic and humanitarian aspects of the park, which are worthy of much consideration, and directed their principal efforts to picturing to the members of the general assembly the material value of the park to the state, emphasizing the fact that the \$2,000,000 which the state is being asked to expend in securing the land necessary for the park, is but a relatively small investment that will eventually bring back untold returns when the park becomes a reality.

Other states, with nothing like the scenic grandeur that is to be found in North Carolina, sensitive to the times and appreciating the pull which natural scenery and the out-of-doors has for people today, are spending millions of dollars in developing state parks, according to Major W. A. Welch, member of the Southern Appalachian Park Commission, and director of state parks in New York, who particularly emphasized this phase of the situation. California, with four national parks in its boundaries, has been quick to realize the "pull of parks" on tourists, and has established numerous state parks at its own expense, and which it maintains, and the California legislature has just adopted a law to authorize and additional bond issue of \$8,000,000 for the state parks.

In the little state of Vermont, with its diminutive mountains and but insignificant natural scenery as compared with the Great Smokies, more than \$1,400,000 was spent by tourists last summer alone, said Major Welch, and the outdoor season there is but a few months, as compared with an almost year round season in North Carolina.

In the Palisades State Park in New York, one of the state board of charities is director, more than 83,000 children, from the cities and towns, camped for periods of from a few days to several weeks, and he

stated that in New York the parks are looked upon as being among the most essential of the state's activities in the prevention of disease and crime. Four years ago New York state authorized the expenditure of \$15,000,000 on its state parks, and just a few days ago Governor Smith asked the legislature to appropriate \$2,000,000 more out of the general fund for the maintenance of these state parks. Yet, in North Carolina, with a National park in its very door asking to be taken in, there is hesitancy to appropriate \$2,000,000 which would be the last and final expense, since the government would pay the cost of maintaining the park.

Why the area in the Smokies in both North Carolina and Tennessee was selected as the best suited for national park purposes out of the entire Appalachian range, was told by Congressman Henry W. Temple of Pennsylvania, chairman of the commission appointed to make the selection. He said that he had visited virtually all of the National parks in the United States, but that he considered the Smokies area the most beautiful and alluring of all. He anticipated the fact that this park was the most accessible, being within 24 hours of 90,000,000 people, and predicted that when established it would rival even the Yellowstone and Yosemite parks in popularity.

The manner in which the government develops parks after it takes them over was explained by Arno R. Cammerer, acting director of the national park service, the distinguished member of the delegation from Washington. Mr. Cammerer traced the history of the National park movement, scarcely 50 years old, and showed the increasing popularity of these parks and the pulling power they have upon travelers. In 1917 only 300,000 people visited the National parks in the United States, while in 1926 more than 3,000,000 people visited these same parks, he said. And yet all of these are west of the Mississippi river, and from four to five days journey from the eastern seaboard, the center of the greatest population. The reason, he declared, is that the parks are so accessible to all sections of the state, would pay many times over the original investment asked of the park service from North Carolina, he declared. The National park service is expending more than \$2,500,000 yearly on permanent improvements in the national parks, he declared besides the special appropriations.

The special delegation, including Colonel D. C. Chapman of Knoxville, Tennessee, chairman of the Business and Professional Men's Association, Park commission, Senator Mark Squires of Caldwell, chairman of the North Carolina park commission, Representatives Harry Nettles and Senators Plato Ebbs of Buncombe and Don Elias of Asheville, spent the greater part of the afternoon with Governor O'Connell, and the state board of charities, in an effort to map out a definite program toward the acquisition of the territory necessary for the park.

THE COTTON MARKET

Opened Steady at an Advance of 1 to 5 Points, and May Went to 13.75.

New York, Feb. 4.—(AP)—The cotton market opened steady today at an advance of 1 to 5 points in response to higher Liverpool cables and held very steady in the early trading on trade buying and covering.

The latter was attributed partly to reports of prospects of early action on the McNary-Hauger bill, which some traders here believe would have a bullish effect on the immediate market.

Business was fairly active, but there was considerable southern selling on the advance which carried the price of May contracts up to 13.75 and October to 14.14 or 4 to 6 points net higher.

Cotton futures opened steady March 13.48; May 13.70; July 13.92; Oct. 14.12; Dec. 14.80.

Curtailed Production of Yarn May Be Necessary.

Charlotte, Feb. 3.—Curtailed production in the yarn spinning industry appears probable unless a buying movement materializes in the near future, a bulletin issued today by the Southern Yarn Spinners association said.

There has been no accumulation of stock by the yarn mills, it was stated. Orders to last for several weeks have been placed with spinners, who appear disinclined to increase their operations.

Future commitments, the report informed, have been discouraged with yarn prices stiffened because of the stability of cotton.

The yarn market remained unchanged during the past week with purchases still confined to small quantities for quick delivery, it was stated.

The bulletin declared there was no intention manifested by spinners to grant concessions.

Name Of Gladstone Stands Unaltered, Jury Returns Verdict Against Wright

London, Feb. 3.—The honor of England's grand old man stands unaltered before the world. The jury in the libel suit brought against Viscount Gladstone by Captain Peter Wright gave a verdict today for the defendant.

SEVERAL MEASURES OF IMPORTANCE IN STATE ARE PASSED

Day Proves One of Most Profitable of the Present Session of the General Assembly.

BILL WOULD EQUALIZE TAX

Wants the County Taxes Equalized to Support the Schools.—Score of Bills in the Senate.

(AP)—House received a bill designed to equalize county taxes for the support of the state six months' school system, as the outstanding feature of the legislature today. The Senate postponed action on issues slated for debate, to pass more than a score of local bills, none of outstanding importance.

The education bill was introduced by Representative Folger of Surry, and provides for a property tax of 47 cents and a poll tax of \$1.41 in each county for the purpose of maintaining the legal six months' school term.

The tax would be collected by sheriffs as at present, and the assessments would be made by a state commission composed of seven citizens appointed by the Governor, with the commissioner of revenue as ex-officio member.

County boards of education would act as agents for the State Department in gathering the funds, but the money would be disbursed through state channels. The funds collected under the provisions of the bill would be used for maintenance and not for construction of buildings or permanent improvements.

The bill states that its purpose is to provide equalization of taxes for schools and equal opportunities for children.

Passage of a host of House local measures in the lower body and consideration of important bills in the Senate stood out in the hour's session before adjournment over to tomorrow at 10 a. m.

The measure to merge the fisheries and game departments of the state with the conservation department in charge was introduced, outstanding in the bulk of basic machinery of bill introduction, committee reports and bill readings, while galleries for the most part droned.

The senate postponed virtually all of its big measures after some discussion of each over to next Tuesday and next Wednesday.

With Our Advertisers.

New furniture store in Concord will open February 17th. See ad.

Advance spring millinery showing at Fisher's, \$2.95 to \$9.95.

The G. A. Moser Shoe Co. has just received a big shipment of shoes for spring, and all will be ready for the usual prices. They range from \$1.95 to \$5.95. Full fashioned silk hosiery \$1.50. See big new ad. today.

You will find many bargains in groceries at A. & P. stores. See ad. in Tribune today.

Bedroom suites of value at the Bell-Harris Furniture Co.

Smart hats in the season's newest styles, ready Saturday at Fisher's. Hats from \$2.95 to \$9.95 for all faces. Beautiful coats and dresses also for little money.

It is important that you make your will. See officers of Citizens Bank and Trust Company. They are experienced in this work.

Ehrle is offering the latest styles in spring footwear at most reasonable prices.

Good lubrication is important for any automobile. Consult experts at the Auto Supply and Repair Co.

Fresh vegetables and also fresh meat and fish at the Sanitary Grocery Co.

Don't forget the extra special values at the Parks-Bell Co. during last three days of big sale. See ad. for particulars.

Send Elmer's Chocolates for Valentine. Sold by Cline's Pharmacy.

LIKES THE NEW HEADS ON OUR SECOND PAGE

A former newspaper man now temporarily in Concord was "tickled to death" with the new 12-point heads on page two of The Tribune. We write:

"Let me congratulate you on the tremendous improvement in the make-up of The Tribune. The new heads make 'all the news' just about as 'snappy' and 'fast' of life as any I have ever seen."

ERNEST BOSWELL FOUND GUILTY IN WILSON COURT

Verdict of Second Degree Murder Returned.—Will Be Sentenced Later.

Wilson, N. C., Feb. 4.—(AP)—A verdict of guilty was returned against Ernest Boswell, charged with the murder of C. E. Beeman in February, 1925, by a jury in the Wilson County Superior Court today. Judge Dunn announced that he would pronounce sentence later. Boswell was being tried on a second degree indictment.

The conviction is Boswell's second for the offense. He was granted a new trial by the Supreme Court in the first case, on the ground that improper testimony had been introduced by the State.

Boswell was convicted of killing Beeman, a slot machine salesman, on February 7, 1925. His trial consumed two days. The defendant was the last witness on the stand.

TOO MUCH COUNSEL TO GO TO COLLEGE

High School Principal Points Out Error Which He Thinks Is Common.

Statesville, Feb. 3.—R. H. Lankford, principal of the Harmony high school, speaking before the Statesville Rotary Club here expressed the opinion that boys and girls in the high schools today are counseled too much to send a college education. Practically everybody who talks to high school students urges them to go to college, said Mr. Lankford, and as a consequence of this advice the minds of the students become so focussed upon college as an end in itself that there are many boys and girls who have no vision and no plan for life beyond a course in college.

If the work the student plans to undertake requires college training, then he ought to go through college, but he should look upon his college training as a means to an end, a preparation, instead of an end in itself. A student's high school training ought to give him some idea of the necessity and dignity of work. He needs to learn how to work, how to do some one thing well. And for this reason there should be vocational training in every high school in Irredell county, he stated.

RELIEF WORK FAR WATER SUFFERERS IS INCREASED

Crews Are Fighting to Keep Levees From Breaking—Many Desert Their Homes.

Memphis, Tenn., Feb. 4.—(AP)—Relief work in the flooded districts of Arkansas where the White, Cache and St. Francis rivers have been on a rampage for several days, was carried forward with renewed energy today while crews of workmen fought valiantly to strengthen the levees and prevent further destruction and suffering.

The senate passed up the chance for what promised to be a real contest when it postponed consideration of the bill providing \$1,500 annual increase in the salaries of all judges.

The bill was set for a special order at the conclusion of the noon hour. But when it was reached, Senator Moore, of Martin, author of the original bill for which this one is a committee substitute, ordered that it be not considered today, but be made a special order for next Tuesday.

Consideration of two other state bills was postponed to Tuesday. One was the bill proposing the re-districting of the state or superior courts, and the addition of seven new districts, was made a special order or next Wednesday.

Young Erwin Man Dies of Hydrophobia.

Erwin, Feb. 3.—Eliam Dudley, 22 bridegroom of two months, died here this afternoon with what local physicians diagnosed as hydrophobia. He was stricken yesterday afternoon.

The young man, according to the three local physicians, died a horrible death. He was bitten, it was said, about a year ago by a cat, but paid little attention to the wound at the time.

Tuesday afternoon he was suddenly stricken with a malady which at first baffled the physicians. Developments led the doctors to believe that the young man had contracted hydrophobia.

Revolutionists Surrender.

Lisbon, Portugal, Feb. 4.—(AP)—The revolutionists of the garrison at Oporto who began a movement against the government of President Carmona yesterday, have surrendered to the government troops.

VAUDEVILLE TONIGHT "KING BRADY'S LOVE PIRATES" "SMILES" Also "SUMMER BACHELORS" Entire Change Bill, Specialties and Picture 25c-50c Please Come Early For Choice Seats! PICTURES AT 7 and 9:45 VAUDEVILLE AT 9:00

SHANGHAI AWAITING BATTLE NEAR CITY; CHINESE STRONG

Battle May Determine Fate of Republic as Well as Possession of City of Shanghai.

FANG DENIES FOES DRIVING HIM OFF

Defender of City Says He Is Holding His Own.—Wounded Soldiers Are Crowding Hospitals.

Shanghai, China, Feb. 4.—(AP)—Conflicting reports left Shanghai in doubt today as to the military situation south of here where northern and southern troops have taken positions for a battle which is expected to determine possession of this city, control of the Yangtze Valley, and possibly the fate of the republic.

Headquarters of Marshal Sun Chuan-fang, defender of the city against the Cantoneses advance, declared he was holding his own. Nationalist circles forecast his early collapse.

Missionaries arriving from the battle front in Chekiang province reported today that 500 of Marshal Sun's wounded soldiers had reached Hangchow from his Yenchow front, crowding hospitals and necessitating the moving of overflow wounded to the Southern Presbyterian Mission Hospital at Kashing.

U. S. Forces Moving Closer.

Washington, Feb. 4.—(AP)—As the northern and southern Chinese forces grid themselves for battle in the central Chekiang provinces, with Shanghai as the possible ultimate goal, United States naval forces in excess of 1,450 marines, are being moved closer to the danger zones as a precautionary measure to provide protection to Americans.

Meanwhile Secretary Kellogg is awaiting the reply which Eugene Chen, Cantonesse foreign minister, has said he would make in a few days to the United States invitation to both military and Chinese factions for conference looking to the drawing up of new equalization treaties with China.

The State department has emphasized that none of the men being moved to China will be landed unless there develops an emergency clearly indicating that American lives are in danger.

If Foreign Minister Chen raises the question of the purpose of American forces in the Shanghai area, which it is regarded as likely he will do in his comment on the Kellogg overtures, Washington officials are prepared to deal on the point. They contend that the Marine movement merely is to acquire a sufficient mobile force to extend American citizens protection should the need arise, and feel that the holding of additional warship and marines at Honolulu, Guam and Manila is evidence that the United States contemplates no large scale landing operations in China.

Special Committee For Negotiations.

London, Feb. 4.—(AP)—A special cabinet committee has been formed to deal with the Chinese situation. It is understood this committee will include Premier Stanley Baldwin, Sir Austin Chamberlain, foreign secretary, and the Earl of Balfour, lord president of the council.

Negotiations at Hankow are virtually at a standstill through the insistence of Eugene Chen, the Cantonesse foreign minister, that there be concentration of British forces at Shanghai. All is calm in the concession city where serious anti-British rioting in December led the British authorities to take precautionary measures.

Cabinet meeting has been called to determine upon a plan to meet Chen's attitude. One outstanding suggestion is that an attempt be made to please the Cantonesse leader by promising that there will be no extensive landing of troops at Shanghai, unless menacing developments make it necessary.

The general public appears to favor the maintenance of the defense force at some nearby place, like Hong Kong, so that it could be dispatched to the scene without delay if the occasion warranted.

This defense is being steadily augmented, as transports and warships arrive in Chinese waters. The cruiser American and a battalion of Durham infantry arrived at Singapore yesterday, the troops proceeding to Shanghai. Another regiment of Suffolk infantry which left Gibraltar December 2nd before plans for the Shanghai defense force were arranged, is expected to reach Hong Kong in a day or so.

Charlotte Cotton 13 Cents