

THREE GERMAN CRUISERS SUNK BY THE BRITISH

LONDON, Dec. 9. (Central News Cable)—The wildest excitement prevailed here following the news that the German cruisers Scharnorst, Gneissnau and Leipzig had been sunk by the British fleet.

LONDON, Dec. 7. (Central News Cable)—The British steamship, Charcas, which was bound to South American ports, was sunk off the coast of Chili today by the German transport, Prinzzeitel Frederick.

TWO SWEDISH STEAMERS STRIKE MINES AND SINK

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 7.—Two Swedish steamers, the Luna and Everilda, struck floating mines today off the coast of Finland in the vicinity of Maentulote and sunk.

WILL MAKE ATTEMPT TO BREAK ALLIES' LINE

LONDON, Dec. 7.—Advices from Berlin say that it is generally believed that the Germans are preparing to make a new and violent attempt to break through the Allies' left wing in Flanders.

OCCUPATION OF LODZ OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED

BERLIN, Dec. 7.—Reiteration of the announcement that the Germans have occupied Lodz, which was partly destroyed, and further reports of important successes in that region are included in an official war office statement today.

GERMANS SEIZE TWO TORPEDO DESTROYERS

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 7.—A Norway dispatch declares that Germany has seized two torpedo boat destroyers which were building for Norway in Germany.

TURKISH CRUISER HIT MINE IN BLACK SEA

PARIS, Dec. 7.—The Turkish cruiser Hamidieh, struck a mine in the Black sea today and was badly damaged. She regained the port of Constantinople with great difficulty.

UNDERSTANDING PROBABLE WITH BALKAN COUNTRIES

LONDON, Dec. 7.—Progress has been made toward an understanding in the Balkans which will be satisfactory to the Allies, according to the Telegraph's Athens correspondent who understands that a basis has been reached for a rapprochement between Serbia and Bulgaria.

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 8. (Central News Cable)—The Swedish steamer Nora Sverige, struck a mine off the coast of Finland today and sank immediately.

KAISER WILHELM IS VERY ILL WITH AN ATTACK OF BRONCHITIS

AMSTREDAM, Dec. 8.—The Kaiser is seriously ill with an attack of bronchitis and an aggravated case of catarrh and it will be impossible for him to return to the front at any time within the near future.

THE NEW COMMISSIONERS IN

C. D. BRADHAM CHOSEN AS CHAIRMAN—T. W. HOLTON TO FILL VACANCY.

Yesterday being the first Monday in the month, the County Commissioners held their regular monthly meeting, and the newly elected officers of the county subscribed to the oath of office.

T. W. Holtton of Bridgeton, was appointed by the Clerk of the Superior Court to fill the vacancy in the Board of Commissioners caused by the death of the late J. W. Biddle.

The jury for a one week term of civil and criminal court, which will convene Monday January the fourth, were drawn.

STOCK EXCHANGE OPENS SATURDAY

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—The Board of Governors of the Stock Exchange decided this afternoon that on next Saturday they would re-open the stock exchange for restricted trading in stocks.

U. S. COURT REFUSES FRANK

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 7.—The Supreme Court of the United States today refused to review the case of Leo M. Frank of Atlanta, Ga.

SESSION CONTINUES.

The Baseball Magnates Continue Meeting.

TOADSTONE WORN BY KAISER TO BRING LUCK.

PARIS, Dec. 8.—The Kaiser has worn the famous Hohenzollern toadstone since the war began, according to La Vie Parisienne.

NEW BERN ELKS PAY TRIBUTE TO THE DEAD

Beautiful and Impressive Ceremony Was Conducted Sunday Afternoon.

TWO HAVE DIED IN THE PAST YEAR.

Roscoe Turner, Brilliant Young Pasquotank Barrister, Delivered The Address.

In memory of their brothers who have "crossed the river," the New Bern Lodge of Elks No. 764, Sunday afternoon held their annual memorial exercises in their club rooms in the Elks temple.

Probably the members of no other fraternal organization are bound together in friendship as are the Elks and when the Reaper garners one of them to the Master's fold, although his presence is not seen it is felt and his memory is always held sacred by those who are left behind.

The exercises were opened with the singing of the chorus "Our Brothers Sleep" by a choir composed of Robert Richardson, Eugene McSorley, C. T. Pumphrey, John Tolson, L. C. Tolson, Hubert Hanks, Bayard Whitehurst and Thomas Brogden.

At the conclusion of this prayer, John and L. C. Tolson sang in a most impressive manner "Wait Thou on The Lord." This was followed by the lodge ceremonies after which the Elks and the entire audience joined in the opening ode which was rendered to the air of "Auld Lang Syne," after which chaplain E. C. Allison rendered the invocation.

Just preceding the memorial address, which was made by Roscoe Turner, one of Pasquotank county's most brilliant barristers, Eugene McSorley sang "The Vacant Chair." Mr. Turner had never before been heard by a New Bern audience and they were unaware of his gifted oratorical abilities.

Enumerating the creed of the Elks he inspired them to further carry on their work of charity, their spirit of justice and the ever reigning attribute of brotherly love toward one another and their fidelity to all.

When the speaker had concluded his address Prof. Prunier, one of the most accomplished violinists in the State, charmed those present with a violin solo, and at the conclusion of the eulogies he accompanied on the violin while Mr. C. T. Pumphrey sang "The Day is Ended," a tenor solo.

During the past year two members of the Elks lodge have died. These were Bert Smith and J. W. Biddle.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 7.—The Supreme Court of the United States today refused to review the case of Leo M. Frank of Atlanta, Ga.

The Baseball Magnates Continue Meeting.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—National and International League club owners continued their annual meetings here today, while American League magnates and club owners at informal gatherings discussed trades that are expected to strengthen weak teams in the junior and major league by a more equitable distribution of star players.

Further development in President John's move to arrange for the sale of the New York Yankees to Jacob Ruppert were expected.

THE ESTIMATE ON NAVAL EXPENSES LARGE

Submitted To Congress Yesterday—The Amount Provides For A Number of Items.

TWO NEW WARSHIPS ARE ON THE LIST.

Submarine Mines, and Fortifications Are To Be Taken Care Of.

Washington, Dec. 7.—American military and naval expenses for the next fiscal year, not including certain fixed expenses, would amount to \$256,421,357, compared with \$251,284,167 during the current year.

The tentative naval building program for the next fiscal year, as indicated in the estimates, is for two battleships, six torpedo boat destroyers, "eight or more submarines," one oiler and one gun boat, one of the submarines to be of the seagoing type and seven or more to be of the coast defense type.

Democratic Leader Underwood, some of the members of the naval committee and others in Congress, having in mind the European war lessons, favor an increase in submarines rather than in the larger type of naval craft.

Tentative estimates for the naval program are all "on the assumption the new vessels to be authorized at this session will be built by contract."

For purchase of submarine mines and necessary appliances to operate them "for closing the channels leading to our principal seaports and for continuing torpedo experiments" an appropriation of \$191,350 is asked.

Congressional approval of the transfer of four 12-inch mortars and their carriages, valued at \$110,000, from fortifications in the United States, to the insular possessions is asked together with an estimate of \$50,000 for purchase of submarine mines for closing channels to insular seaports and \$10,000 for maintenance of submarine material there; \$17,000 for mining casements and torpedo storehouses for Philippine defense and several small appropriations for defense of Hawaii.

In the general scheme of fortifications, aggregating almost \$6,000,000 numerous increases are asked. For construction of gun and mortar carriages last year's appropriation is more than doubled in the estimate of \$85,000 for fortifying Cape Henry, Va., together with \$100,000 to modernize older emplacements. For purchase manufacture and test of ammunition for mountain, field and an increase of \$400,000. Various other items ranging from 100,000 to \$10,000 for seacoast cannon, purchase of ammunition, sub calibre guns, and alteration of three inch batteries to rapid fire batteries are proposed.

For fortifications in the insular possessions \$446,000 is asked, an increase of \$90,000. The Panama Canal fortifications aggregate \$1,942,228, an increase of \$817,703, including \$25,000 for torpedo buildings and \$763,000 for purchase, manufacture and test of ammunition for seacoast and land defense cannon and machinery necessary for its manufacture at the arsenals and for maintenance of seacoast artillery.

Among plans for fortifications of the insular possessions, as contemplated, are maintenance of seacoast artillery, \$46,000, in addition to \$300,000 for the same purpose on the continent; ammunition for seacoast cannon \$400,000. Land defenses and sea wall construction in Hawaii \$17,000, and small items for fortifications repair work in the Philippines.

SEN. SIMMONS THINKS RADS. ARE AT WORK

Of The Opinion That Standpat Republicans of The Country are Planning To Attack Democrats.

SAYS NEW TARIFF LAW WON'T HAVE FAIR TRIAL.

The Chairman of The Finance Committee Is Not Alone In His Views.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 7.—Senator E. M. Simmons chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, believes that standpat Republicans of the country are organizing their forces to attack the Democratic Administration at Washington from every angle.

"The tariff law will never have a fair trial if the protectionists, who are represented in public life by the standpat Republicans prevent it," said Senator Simmons.

"The Republicans up to this time have not been able to pierce the armor of President Wilson. They realize that he is immensely popular in hitherto Republican strongholds and they are at loss to know just how to attack him with hope of success.

"There is no doubt that the reelection of Senator Penrose, and the return of ex-Speaker Cannon, William A. Rodenberg, William R. McKinley and others of the old Cannon school of Republicans have given the standpat Republicans fresh courage. They think now that the country is with them, and that the Progressives have been eliminated.

"But, what is more serious to me than the getting together of Republican politicians for a united assault upon President Wilson and the Democrats of Congress is the attitude of certain business interests which seem to be praying for the downfall of the new tariff act.

"It is strange indeed, that, with all the demand from abroad for American made goods, certain manufacturers do not appear to seek business in foreign countries. Cotton mills of the United States are waiting for something. Can it be that hope for a tariff wall, and prefer that to foreign business?

"The new success of the men who helped to make the Payne-Aldrich tariff has given hope to the manufacturer who would rather confine his transactions to this country if he has a tariff wall to protect him.

"I do not believe that all the manufacturers of this country are showing the proper spirit, or the aggressiveness they should. Many men who could seize the present opportunity to get business in Latin American and other neutral countries seem to be marking time.

"Therefore, it is very plain, that the Democrats must fight, from this time on the combined forces of a united standpat Republican party and the men who used to furnish them with sinews of war."

Senator Simmons is not alone in his views. Everything points to a most vigorous campaign against the Democrats and the Democrats measures.

The lack of interest in the opportunity afforded for the shipping people by the European war has caused President Wilson to renew his efforts for the shipping bill before the House Gotton manufacturers in the North and South have not shown much activity.

GEORGIA GOVERNOR MAY YET GRANT REPRIEVE

Slaton Yesterday Reiterated Interview in Which He Said "I Will Insure Justice"

FRANK'S LAWYERS WON'T GIVE UP

"While There's Life There's Hope," They Say, and Prepare for Action

Atlanta, Dec. 8.—The final efforts of Leo Frank's defense will be the most desperate. In anticipation of the Supreme Court's refusal of a writ of error yesterday, work has been under way for some time, it is understood, in preparation of a showing with which the condemned man's attorneys will go first before the Prison Commission and then before Governor Slaton to ask for clemency.

As exhaustive as have been the briefs and records of the defense in former phases of the fight, the evidence which the Prison Commission and the Governor must review will far surpass the others in bulk, it is believed.

Governor Slaton reiterated today an interview which he gave to New York newspaper men when he was in that city recently.

"I did not know the case would ever reach me," he said, "and am familiar with it only in a general way. Without knowing, I presume that the next step of Frank's defense will be to ask me to grant a respite until the State Prison Commission can review the case and make its recommendations.

"I expect to review all the evidence and examine all the arguments, and not until I have done that will I form an opinion. I shall endeavor to insure justice as I see it upon a thorough investigation, as I should so in every case that comes before me, whoever the individual may be who is involved."

It is likely the Governor's mail concerning the Frank case will be staggering. Already there have been many correspondents, men and women, from one end of the nation to the other, who explain their theories of the Mary Phagan tragedy, many stoutly defending Frank's innocence, others seeking to prove his guilt by a dozen methods of logic. It is likely that no criminal case of recent years has aroused the widespread interest of this.

Particularly are there many correspondents who write from New York, where among many people an interest in the case has developed that is hardly less than Atlanta's.

Counsel to Hold Conference

Henry Peoples and Herbert Haas, of course for Frank, refused today to make any comment on the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court yesterday declaring that they would have no statement to make until they had heard from Mr. Alexander. They stated that the next step in the effort to get their case into the courts again would probably be determined at a conference that Frank's attorneys are preparing to hold as soon as they have received definite information from Mr. Alexander.

Judge Hill who has been ill for several days in his apartment in the Georgia Terrace, informed friends today that he expected to go to the courthouse Wednesday. On receipt of this information Solicitor Dorsey decided to make no move toward the resentencing of Frank until the return of Judge Hill. The judge was so much improved today that he had intended visiting the courthouse during the day, but owing to the inclement weather he was advised by his physician to remain indoors for another day or two.

Back to Supreme Court?

Atlanta, Dec. 8.—Attorneys for Frank are undecided whether to take the case direct to the Governor and the Georgia pardon Board with a plea for commutation or appeal to the United States Supreme Court again through the State Supreme Court by means of a writ of error.

MILLS WON'T CLOSE.

Two Big Plants To Continue In Operation.

Wilmington, Dec. 9.—Neither of the local cotton mills are to close down either permanently or temporarily according to statements made from the offices of both the Delgado and Bellwill mills this morning. Rumors were to the effect that both would close down, the reason being given as a lack of cotton. The mills were at a loss to understand why the rumors came to be circulated. Conditions are brighter now than for some time, they say.

SLAYER OF BAFF CAN'T BE FOUND

Gunman Who Killed Wealthy New Yorker Will Not Pay Penalty for Crime

New York, N. Y., Dec. 8.—The coroner's jury today returned a verdict that Barnett Bass, the wealthy chicken merchant who was killed two weeks ago by gunmen, "met his death at the hands of persons unknown." Bass is said to have been killed by men hired by rival dealers and a number of arrests have been made but the men held have all been released.