

## Tavener Writes Col. Thompson

President of Navy League is "Wise" Now to Suspicions of Anti-Preparedness Men. ---Threatens Tavener with Suit.

Colonel Robert M. Thompson, President, Navy League, Washington, D. C.

My Dear Colonel:— I assume from your letter of the 20th ult., and from your various utterances as President of the Navy League, that the impression you desire to create in the minds of the American people is that none of the men who founded, or who have been, or are now, directors of or contributors to the Navy League, have ever been, or are now, in any manner interested in any concern which would profit financially from the \$500,000, 000 bond issue for battleships, etc., which you are advocating.

I understand your position to be that none of the money which the Navy League has used to banquet Members of Congress and Secretaries of the Navy or to carry on the propaganda for the vastly increased naval appropriations which you advocate, has come from any gentlemen who stand to profit therefrom. I contend that the opposite is true.

In your letter you request that I give you some specific information. I call your attention to the fact that Eibert H. Gary, who is described in the directory of directors for 1914 as "Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Finance Committee of the United States Steel Corporation," contributed \$1,000 on June 10, 1915, and that on the same date representatives of the J. P. Morgan estate subscribed \$2,000.

I call your attention to the fact that J. P. Morgan, who is a director of the United States Steel Corporation, was formerly treasurer of the Navy League and is now a director of aid a contributor to the Navy League and that J. P. Morgan's brother-in-law, Herbert L. Satterlee, was one of the incorporators of the League, and is at the present time the General Council of the League.

I also note that Edward T. Stenbury, a member of the firm of J. P. Morgan & Co., and a director of the Baldwin Locomotive Works, Cambria Steel Co., Phoenix Iron Co., Riverside Metal Co., Temple Iron Co., Wm. Cramp & Sons Ship and Engine Building Co., and fifty-four other corporations, banks and trust companies, is one of the honorary vice-presidents of the Navy League.

I also call your attention to the fact that George F. Baker, Jr., No. 2 Wall street, New York, son of a director of United States Steel, contributed \$1,000 to the Navy League, June 10, 1915.

I call your attention to the fact that Robert Bacon, formerly a member of the firm of J. P. Morgan & Co., and now first director of United States Steel Corporation, and a director of the Navy League.

I call your attention to the fact that Henry C. Frick, a director of United States Steel, and ten other corporations, banks and trust companies, is one of the Vice-presidents of the Navy League.

United States Steel controls the Carnegie Steel Company, which has drawn down from the Navy contracts aggregating \$32,959,377 for armor plate alone, and if the Navy League's \$500,000,000 bond issue goes through Congress this firm will profit still further.

I call your attention to the fact that Alton A. Ryan, a director of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, contributed \$100 to the Navy League on June 10, 1915, and to the further fact that George R. Sheldon, a director of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, and the American Locomotive Co., both of which concerns have profited hugely from European war orders, is one of the vice-presidents of the Navy League. Mr. Sheldon is also a director of twenty-four other corporations.

The Bethlehem Steel Corporation has obtained from the Navy Department armor contracts amounting to \$42,821,237, and if the Navy League's program goes through, Bethlehem stands to receive increased orders.

From the foregoing it would appear that two of the three concerns composing the armor ring in this country have representation either among the contributors to the Navy League or among the officers or directors of the Navy League.

The Government has purchased

(Continued on page four)

## The Happenings in Nearby Towns

Events of the Week Briefly Told by Our Correspondents Which Will Interest Many; Read What Our Writers Have to Say.

### Oak City Briefs

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Ross wish to extend their thanks to the people of the town for their kindness during the illness of their little son Clarence.

Henry Davis, a colored man was knocked down and badly injured, Saturday night, Nov. 27th trying to cross the track in front of the 6:30 train as it slowed down coming to the station. He was taken to Dr. Edgar Long's office where his injuries were attended to, and on Sunday morning he was taken to the hospital at Rocky Mount where he is being cared for. One leg was broken besides other severe injuries. From very recent accounts he is rapidly improving.

A large gathering of folks, all sizes, from the wee little ones to the "grown-ups" were entertained last Friday night, Dec. 3rd., at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Billie Hurst, in honor of Mr. Hurst's 55th birthday.

Music by Miss McLean and singing by the young people also a violin and banjo duet by Messrs. Whit Hyman and John Brown were enjoyed by all. Refreshments were served at 10:30 at the home made candy was exceedingly good.

Messrs. J. W. and J. L. Hines spent Sunday in Rocky Mount.

J. C. Ross was in Tarboro Sunday.

Mrs. F. M. Harrell spent Monday in Greenville.

Messrs. R. J. and R. W. House spent last week in Savana, Ga.

Miss Lucy Graham Cherry who spent last week with Misses Pearl and Jefferson House left for Hassell Sunday.

Wilber Mosley of Hamilton, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. N. M. Mosley.

Miss Annie Mae Beverly is spending the week with her sister Mrs. C. M. Hurst.

Mrs. Marshal Hyman of Spring Hope, spent Sunday with her mother, Mrs. Vick Bunting.

L. S. Davenport of Speeds, was in town Sunday.

### HONOR ROLL

Oak City School for the 13th week First Grade.

Gladys Everett, Margaret Hines, Sarah Long Johnson, Lucile House, Leola Hines, Myrtella Hyman, Ruby Hurst, Mildred Davenport, Pauline Davenport, Ethel Bunting, Eloise Ross, Dorris Rawls, Erlene Glover, Erma Johnson, Willie Johnson, Marie Lee Turner, Lillian Harshlip, Marie Coney, Esther Price, Ellsworth Glover, Marion House, Kelly Bunting, Ernest Esteridge, Thomas Herrrell, Luma Harrell, Robert Harrell, Ebbie Cross, Robert Price, Linwood Price.

### Second Grade

Alma Harrell, Hazel Harrell, Mattie Thomas.

### Third Grade

Susie Price, Margaret Fleming, Willie Rawls, Christine Piland, Olivia Johnson, Reba Cowey, Mollie Cross, Allie Cross, Olivia Harrell.

### Fifth Grade

Herman Piland, Joseph Faithful, Selma Johnson, Wheeler Daniel, Paul Turner, Elizabeth Moore, Blanch Bunting.

### Sixth Grade

Dare Daniel, Pauline Johnson, Alta Hines, Ernest Bunting, Beatha Piland.

### Seventh Grade

Marvin Everett, Edgar Turner, Mary Hines, Joe Bunting.

On December 15 the Commonwealth will issue its Christmas edition, which will contain about 16 pages of profusely illustrated Christmas poetry and reading and attractive advertising by local concerns. Merchants who have not already reserved space in this issue ought to do so at once. The Christmas edition comes along with the regular issue of December 15, being only a part of the regular paper. Look for it.

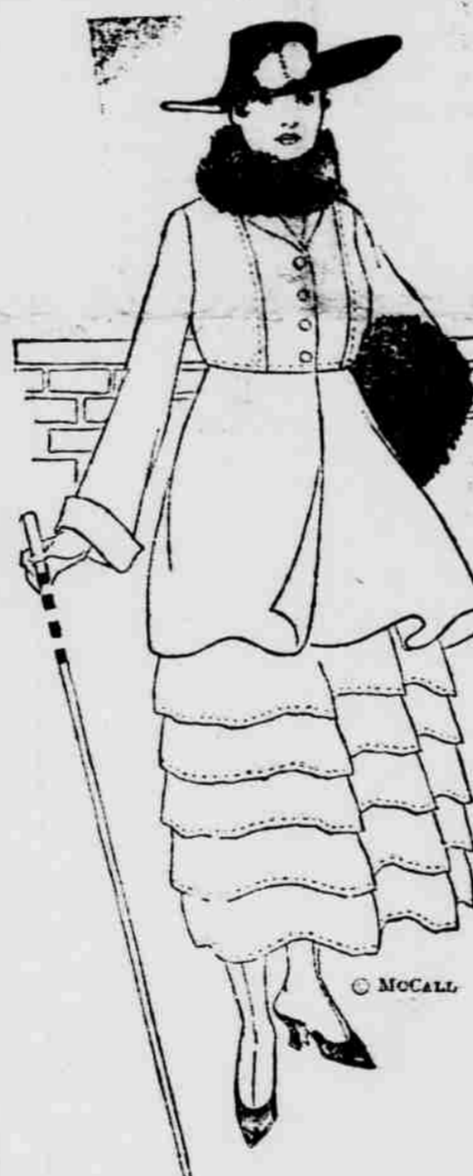
## Tailored Suit and Evening Frocks

Worn at the Two Opening Events of the Season.—Emerald Green a Favored Color.—A Weekly Fashion Letter.

New York's social season is in full swing; it opened in a blaze of glory with the swinging back of the Metropolitan's doors late in November. This first night, as always drew the usual brilliant, opera-going audience wonderfully gowned in the soft shade so much favored for formal evening wear this winter. The white throats beautifully dressed hair, and gleaming jewels distracted the attention more than once of even the dyed-in-the-wool music lovers, who are usually immune to clothes when Caruso is to be heard.

### THE FAVORED PALE TINTS

Among the prevailing shades worn by the gorgeous "first-nighters" were pink, blue and white with here and there a stunning black frock, or one of vivid emerald green. This shade of green is an exception to the rule of white, or pastel shades, now so modish; there were several entire gowns in this shade at the opera and the most striking and artistic costume noticed at the Horse Show, some weeks earlier, was also of this green. It is wonderfully becoming to a woman with white hair and a youthful face. Black is favored for evening, too, and served as an attractive touch of contrast among the pale tones in the "golden horseshoe"



Dark Green Duvetyn Suit.

### THE MATTER OF FANS AND GLOVES

Among the most fascinating accessories accompanying these attractive costumes were not the small, useless fancies of several seasons past, but large, graceful fans of ostrich curled and uncurled. Many were in white or the pastel shades; one especially attractive fan was of midnight blue, uncurled ostrich.

The matter of gloves with the sleeveless frocks, and all were sleeveless with one or two exceptions, has probably been a problem with many white gloves, coming just above the elbow, were generally worn; now and then one noticed a pair in pale pink or two pairs of black, too, were worn. The universal use of tulle, malines, or the fine-meshed net was very noticeable it was used to veil the neck and arms, as a scarf in the hair, or billowing, pannier-fashion, over the hips. The men with their black suit and white fronts made an excellent background for these pretty women and the delicately colored frocks.

### DAYTIME SUITS AT THE HORSE SHOW

The daytime costumes at the Horse Show were quite as interesting as those worn in the evening. While there were many attractive one piece dresses worn under smart separate coats of cloth or fur, the tailored suit as in days gone by was most in evidence. Not the straight mannish suit entirely, although there were many of these, too, but the easy-line semi-tailored suit of broadcloth gabardine, duvetyn, whipcord, and novelty checks and strips. Many dull-colored mixtures were worn, trimmed of course, with fur or braid.

An exceptionally effective suit of

dark green duvetyn, was made with flounced skirt and flaring peplum on the coat. A wide soft collar of dark fox and a barrel muff of fox accompanied the suit. Other effective details were the matching spats, the



Attractive Suit of Gabardine.

wide velvet hat, and the nifty stick. Another tailored suit, worn the same afternoon, equally simple and chic was of dark blue gabardine made with a Russian blouse coat, and flaring skirt trimmed with narrow band of seal; a small ball muff of beaver and seal was carried and spats of white faille ribbon on the stiff-brimmed hat.

### THE THREE-QUARTER COAT

This length prevails in the separate coat for daytime wear. They are of fur or cloth, fur-trimmed. When the coat is made of cloth, it may contrast with or match the frock. One notices a box-back now and then but the belt in some form is most generally favored. Buttons are attractive trimming, in novelty metal's gold filigree, nickel, and the like. The majority of these coats are made with normal shoulders and set in sleeves although there are many raglan model. One especially pretty coat was of brocaded brown leather. Several leather costumes were noticed at the Horse Show one afternoon; they were worn by mannequins from one of our large dressmaking establishments, and created quite a bit of comment. Leather suits are a novelty and as such are attractive, but in all probability they will not become popular with the general run of people.

### For Sale at a Bargain.

One 8 Horse Power, Focs, One 5 Horse Power Fairbanks Morse Gasoline Engines.

Both engines have been used some to pull Peanut Threshers which they did with ease and no trouble. Both Engines are complete with clutch pulleys, and are mounted on Steel Trucks.

Josey Hdw. Co.

Miss Lydia Bob House was in town Tuesday.

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