WEATHER: Rain tonight and Saturday. Moderate fresh southwest to west winds.

THE COMMONWEALTH

ESTABLISHED SINCE 1852

AFTERNOON DAILY

"ALL THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL."

VOLUME IX—NO. 27. FOUR O'CLOCK EDITION SCOTLAND NECK, N. C. FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 1920. TELEGRAPH SERVICE PRICE TWO CENTS

LEAGUE OF NATIONS CONFIRMED BY FIRST MEETING IN PARIS

Nine Powers Met In The French Foreign Office Under Chairmanship Of Leon Bourgeois

ACT REFERRED TO SAAR BASIN

Paris, Jan. 16.—Representatives of France, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Belgium, Spain, Japan, and Brazil, all members of the Council of the League of Nations, met in the French foreign office at 10 o'clock this morning for the first meeting of the league.

The council was organized at 10:30 by electing Leon Bourgeois chairman and confirming Sir Eric Drummond as secretary.

The first official act of the council was the appointment of a commission to trace upon the spot the frontier of the territory of the Saar Basin.

Paris, Jan. 16.—The Council of the League of Nations received the first formal protest to be presented to it almost before it came into being with today's initial session.

The protest was from the "envoys of the elected government of the Irish republic" against the proposed English simulacre of an international league of peace.

No mention of the protest was made during the meeting of the council but copies were handed to correspondents after they had left the foreign office.

FRENCH DENY REPORT OF SAILORS MUTINY

Paris, Jan. 16.—The reports emanating from Berlin that French naval forces and troops had mutinied at Toulon, the military port of France, have not been confirmed and nothing relative to the alleged disorders there have been heard in Marseilles.

43 SURVIVORS ONLY OF STEAMER AFRIQUE

Paris, Jan. 16.—So far 43 persons of the 474 on board the steamer Afrique, which foundered in the Bay of Biscay last week, have been known to have

ADMIRAL SIMS BEFORE SENATE SUB-COMMITTEE ON WAR-TIME HONORS

Hale Says His Evidence Will Last Two Days

OPPOSES DANIELS

Washington, Jan. 16.—Rear Admiral Sims, whose letter to Secretary Daniels recently disclaiming the distinguished service medal awarded him, and precipitated a controversy over the awards of war-time honors, was the first witness of the list of those to appear before the Senate sub-committee today.

Chairman Hale announced that he expected Admiral Sims' testimony to take two days.

BOLSHEVIKI TAKE PORT OF ODESSA

Basle, Jan. 16.—Odessa the chief port of Russia on the Black Sea has been occupied by Bolsheviki, according to newspaper dispatches received here.

WOULD INVESTIGATE CLYDE HOEY'S ELECTION

Washington, Jan. 16.—Investigation of the recent special election in the ninth North Carolina district in which Clyde Hoey, Democrat, defeated John Morehead, Republican, is being considered by the Republican congressional committee.

Representative Fess, chairman of the committee, said today that the final decision would be made after the committee's lawyers had decided whether the committee's funds may be legally expended for the purpose of inquiry.

KAISER IN AGONY OVER EXTRADITION

Has Secretary To Scan Every Item Of News

SEEMS OBSESSED

The Hague, Jan. 16.—Ex-Kaiser Wilhelm is in a state of semi-prostration due to the agony and terror with which he views the growing determination of the Allied statesmen to hale him before an international tribunal.

According to a diplomat who talked with an officer of the ex-Kaiser's suite, during the past week, the former monarch keeps a score of couriers traveling night and day between Berlin and Amerongen bearing the latest news from Paris.

Wilhelm has a special secretary whose sole duty it is to read the entire press of the world and search for additional facts, as well as legal opinions regarding the possibility of the threatened trial actually taking place.

The ex-Kaiser has given instructions that couriers and diplomats in possession of the slightest details concerning this obsession, which is with him practically a monomania, be admitted to personal audiences immediately at any hour of the day or night.

IRVIN COBB SPEAKS AT ROCKY MT. SOON

As Mrs. W. Gray Williams, secretary of the Woman's Club of Rocky Mount, truly says in announcing the coming of Mr. Irvin S. Cobb to speak to the people of this section at the Rocky Mount Opera House on Saturday, January 24, "it is needless to go into explanation of who and what Mr. Cobb is," so in stating his coming we in turn merely repeat that it will be one of the greatest treats in store for eastern North Carolinians to have so eminent and cultured a man as Mr. Cobb in this territory, even for one day.

There is hardly a reading person who does not know something for Irvin Cobb, and enjoyed his writings, but to see him face to face, to hear his utterances and to know the man personally is worth a long trip, even during the winter months. We hope many of our people will take advantage of Mr. Cobb, being so near to us, and go and hear him.

BROOKLYN MAN ELOPES WITH 6 YEARS OLD GIRL

Caught At Home Of Friends In Jersey City

BE EXTRADITED

New York, Jan. 16.—Samuel Bonesteele, who disappeared from Brooklyn on Tuesday with six-year-old Ruth Eleanor King, whom he has taken care of since she was six months old, was arrested at the home of a friend at Jersey City by Detective John McGowan, of Brooklyn, and locked up on the charge of being a fugitive from justice.

Ruth was taken to Brooklyn and turned over to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard R. King, of Brooklyn. Bonesteele, it was said, would be extradited to Brooklyn and held under a charge of kidnapping, despite the fact that Mr. King said he had no desire to prosecute him.

REGINALD DE KOVEN DIES IN CHICAGO

Chicago, Jan. 16.—Reginald De Koven, American operatic composer and conductor, died here early today of apoplexy.

He was born at Middletown, Conn., in 1861.

CLEMENCEAU WOULD SUPPORT POINCAIRE

Paris, Jan. 16.—Premier Clemenceau today announced that he would withdraw as candidate for the presidency of the republic of France and asked his supporters to vote for President Poincaire for re-election.

U. S. MARINES REPEL 300 HAITIAN BANDITS

Washington, Jan. 16.—United States Marines and Haitien gendarmerie yesterday repelled an attack on Port au Prince, the Haitien capapital by 300 bandits, more than half of hom were killed, wounded or captured. Two marines only were wounded.

Our idea of a henpecked husband is—but, on second thought, we have no idea. We have to go home again.

BRITISH PEOPLE VERY DISTURBED OVER BOLSHEVIK RAIDS IN EAST

Leaders As Well As Army And Navy Heads Hurry To Paris To Confer With Lloyd George

"RED RUSSIA AT DOOR OF INDIA"

London, Jan. 16.—Attention of the British people is fixed on the near east where recent Bolshevik successes have carried the Red Russian armies almost to the threshold of Persia, Meso- Russia almost to the [illegible] of India, Persia, Mesopotamia and Asiatic Turkey.

Cabinet members and chiefs of the British army and navy are today in Paris, whither they were hastily summoned yesterday, conferring with Premier Lloyd George on military and naval matters in connection, it is believed, with conditions in southwest Asia.

SENATOR KENYON TRIES COMPROMISE PLAN ON NON-PARTISAN LINES

Eight Of Each Party Will Meet For Discussion

EXCLUDE LODGE

Washington, Jan. 16.—An effort to bring about a non-partisan action looking toward ratification of the Peace Treaty by compromise has been started by Senators Kenyon, of Iowa, Republican, and Owen, of Oklahoma, Democrat.

These Senators have undertaken to call a conference of all friends of the Treaty without respect to party or the purpose of seeing whether it will be possible to agree on reservation which 61 Senators may be willing to support.

Senator Kenyon agreed to name eight Republican Senators who will participate in such a conference, and Senator Owen is expected to supply eight Democratic Senators who will do likewise. It is planned to have these sixteen Senators formulate the call for the conference and to direct its activities along lines that might lead to a compromise.

Preliminary to issuing the call Senators Kenyon and Owen decided that it would be better not to have Senators Lodge, Hitchcock and Underwood take part in the conference. The presence of these Senators, they explained might complicate the efforts toward a compromise by injecting partisanship, and rivalry into the situation.

COTTON MARKET.

January	38.00
March	36.04
May	34.30
July	32.70
October	30.20

Cotton seed, $1.38

ROME FLOURISHES WITH HER CITIZENS

Rome, Jan. 16.—The cry for the tourists of America, England and France is heard throughout Italy. It is as strong in Venice, Florence, Naples and Genoa as in Rome.

But Italian cities have increased their population at such an amazing rate during the war that there seems to be no room for tourists. Hotels in all the larger cities are crowded to overflowing at all times. Apartments and houses are not available at any price. Rents have been kept down by law and municipal authorities are hard pressed to find shelter for the population that has flocked to the cities.

Rome had only 550,000 inhabitants before the opening of the war. It now has 800,000 and seems to be growing daily. There are few foreigners. One seldom hears anything but Italian spoken in hotels, cafes and theatres. But the streets are crowded day and night.

In its palmiest days Rome had 3,000,000 inhabitants. But in the 13th century, when the papacy moved to Avignon, in France, the once grand capital of the ancient world become a deserted ruin with only 17,000 inhabitants.

Wood alcohol booze, like whiskey, will go, but not until after its victims have gone.

Prohibition Effective At 12.01 Tonight

Washington, Jan. 16.—Constitutional prohibition becomes effective at midnight tonight. [illegible] taining one-half of one per cent. or more, of alcohol.

Constitutional prohibition, effective at midnight tonight, and the enforcement legislation enacted by Congress, make the following provisions:

Declare unlawful the manufacture or sale of any beverage containing one-half of one per cent or more of alcohol.

Declare places where liquor is sold in violation of law to be common nuisances, abatable as such.

Search and seizure powers given prohibitive enforcement officers, except for the search of private dwellings unless used for the unlawful sale of intoxicants or in part as places of business.

Liquor seized to be destroyed, vehicles and other property to be sold and proceeds paid into United States Treasury.

Advertising of liquor by any method prohibited.

Permit manufacture at home for personal use of non-intoxicating ciders and fruit juices. While "non-intoxicating" is not defined specifically, the term "intoxicating" is construed by law to mean one-half of the percent or more of alcohol.

Permit manufacture of alcoholic liquors for sacramental and medicinal uses, under restrictions.

Permit manufacture of alcohol for industrial and scientific uses.

Permit possession of liquor in home in purchased before prohibition became effective.

Physicians prohibited from prescribing alcoholic liquor for patient unless in good faith they believe it will afford relief from ailment. Not more than one pint can be prescribed in any month for one person.

Complete records of sales including names of persons obtaining liquor specified. [illegible] facturers and druggists.

Various penalties for violation fixed, the most severe being $2,000 fine and two years imprisonment.

Louisville, Ky., Jan. 16.—Kentucky distillers still held several million gallons of liquor today, the last day before constitutional prohibition was initiated, notwithstanding attempts to export it. Last unofficial figures [illegible] that 25,000,000 gallons [illegible] approximately 300,000,000 [illegible] said much of it probably will be sold for medicinal purposes.

Whiskey interests of this state waited until early December in the belief that the President, the Supreme Court or Congress would lift the wartime prohibition ban. When the Supreme Court held the law constitutional and neither the President nor Congress relaxed the ban, they [illegible]