

THE COMMONWEALTH

VOL. XII. NUMBER 60.

FOUR O'CLOCK EDITION

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 1921.

TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE

5c PER COPY

Meeting At School Building Last Night

LAW AND ORDER LEAGUE PERFECTED ORGANIZATION. ADOPTED CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS AND APPOINTED COMMITTEES

The public meeting of the Law and Order League appointed for last night at the School Building was called to order by the President, Mr. S. A. ...

The president stated that this league was not organized against individuals, nor to align any body of citizens against another, but to build up a sentiment in favor of law and order, and civic pride. He contended that the citizens of Scotland Neck as a whole were as good as any people anywhere and that it was not the intention to convey any other impression. Also, that the officers of the law were just as fearless as those of any town. That the purpose of the meetings was to create a better feeling between the officers of the law and the citizens with the idea of closer cooperation between the two in the enforcement of the law.

Then they read a copy of the constitution and by laws, which were adopted.

Other speakers were called upon, notably Messrs. Stuart Smith, Ashby Dunn, Paul Kitchin and Prof. M. A. Huggins. In every speech the contention was made that Scotland Neck possessed as fine a citizenship as any town in North Carolina or any other state, and that while there was undoubtedly infractions of the law, that the percentage of the population guilty of such things was infinitesimally small. One of the speakers laid particular stress upon the fact that practically every individual was guilty of breaking the law in a more or less minor degree, and that each individual should put himself straight before he began to throw stones at the other fellow. He stated that hypocrisy was a deadly evil and should not be practiced. Another contended that it was to use a hackneyed expression "impossible to legislate morals into people," but that these same people if approached in a persuasive manner could be influenced into the right way, but could not be forced.

Unquestionably the purpose of this organization, as expressed in the constitution, and as given by the various spokesmen, is to create and build up a healthy respect for the law and law enforcement, a close cooperation between the officers of the law and the citizens, and for general civic betterment.

It is the further purpose to have monthly gatherings and to make these meetings attractive to the general public by providing attractive musical programs and speakings. This should have a wonderfully stimulating effect and create a splendid sentiment for general civic betterment.

The meeting last night was interspersed with musical numbers, all of which were old songs familiar to every one, and the entire audience joined in the singing. Every one should talk these meetings up and every person in the community should become a member and attend the meetings.

MELBA RECOVERING FROM ILLNESS

Paris, April 22.—Madame Nellie Melba, opera singer, is spending a month here preparing for a trip to Australia. Upon her recovery from a severe illness at Monte Carlo, her physicians ordered a long sea voyage.

Madame Melba will sail from England early in June for the United States where she may sing, and then will go to Australia for a stay of six months.

American Dutches Buys Land

(By Associated Press)

Nice, April 22.—The Duchess of Marlborough, who was Consuelo Vanderbilt, of New York, has bought a large tract of land on the heights of Eze here, overlooking the sea, where she intends building a luxurious villa.

The report that the Duchess is engaged to marry M. Balzan, a wealthy landowner of the Riviera, continues to be circulated. She has not replied to written inquiries on the matter.

Danish Commission To Formulate Government For Eskimos

(By Associated Press)

Copenhagen, April 22.—The Danish government is trying to formulate a new system of government for its colony of Greenland but the Royal Commission appointed for that purpose has been unable thus far to agree whether the Eskimos of that far northern land shall be allowed to have free trade with all nations.

King Christian is to visit Greenland in June, the first time a Danish King has ever visited that colony, and the Commission hopes to reach an agreement in time to enable him to announce the new plan of government when he is greeted by the Eskimos.

A well-known Greenland explorer, who is not a member of the Commission, told the correspondent that one section of the Commission was holding out for free trade between the Greenland Eskimos and the nationals of all countries. "This section," he added, "rightly says that the present system of the Danish state granting a monopoly to a single company, even if this company is managed by Danish state officials and for all practical purposes is a government department, is a direct violation of all democratic principles.

"Without any competition, no company, and particularly a company managed by state officials, could possibly be expected to obtain for products of the natives the same high prices as would be obtainable in the open market. Monopoly never bred efficiency.

"On the other hand, the other section of the Royal Commission asserts that the Eskimo is a child and must be treated like a child, that intoxicating liquor and other of the 'blessings' of civilization must be kept away from him, or he will go to rack and ruin.

"Every Greenland settlement has been visited by illegal traders who have shamelessly taken advantage of the confiding nature of the Eskimos. For a bottle of vile spirits, or a row of glass beads these 'traders' have robbed the natives of bearskins and other products of great value. So a grand-motherly trade restriction may not be right in principle but certainly in practice."

COTTON MARKET

May	11.86
July	12.50
October	13.14
December	13.69
January	13.85

IRISH REPUBLICANS DISCLOSE METHODS OF AMBUSH

(By Associated Press)

London, April 22.—Inside stories of the ambushes laid by the Irish Republican Army to trap and kill squads of British constables in Ireland are disclosed in the reports from Irish brigade commanders which have just been given out at the headquarters of the Volunteers in Dublin. Most of these attacks have been reported by the British but the Irish accounts are now given for the first time.

They give the details of desperate fights in which, sometimes, the little British commands have been decimated and at other times the Irish have been driven off with severe losses, for the Irish Volunteers occasionally run into a counter trap and find themselves exposed to the withering blast of a machine-gun.

These reports show the methods employed to carry on the guerrilla fighting, the hurried calls to assemble the Irish attackers, efforts to surprise the British constables in some isolated spot and tell of the use of mines to block the passage of motor cars so that the attack can be delivered with greater execution.

A typical ambush is described in a report of the commander of the East County Clare brigade. Thirty-five men, five acting as scouts, attacked a police lorry containing a district inspector and nine constables at Glenwood Belvoir killing all but four who escaped. Twenty of the attackers, it is stated, were armed with rifles and ten with double-barrelled shot-guns. They were concealed on one side of a road near a stream.

"As in a previous ambush," the commander reports, "the main body was divided into three parties. The position which was occupied at 7 a. m., was not very favorable, but we counted on the element of surprise and the concentrated fire of 15 of the rifles and the ten shotguns in the first volley to make up for shortcomings and in this we were successful."

They waited, it appears, until four o'clock in the afternoon before the lorry came in sight. "When the car came into the center position," the report continues, "it was raked with the fire of the 24 guns, most of the police were shot off and the car came to a dead stop. Some of the police when they got on the road made an attempt to put a fight but the second volley, which included all the rifles, wiped them out.

What is termed "an exceedingly risky operation as we were half the enemy strength" was the attack in County Donegal on a military train from Derry. According to the brigade commander's report the attacking party numbered 26. Information was received at 9.30 at night, the report says, that the special train was to leave Derry at 3 a. m., the next morning.

"Little time was left to choose a position and get settled, but the train was late, giving us three-quarters of an hour to get ready. We chose a cutting, one side of which was on a level with the carriage windows. At the ends of each side we placed bombers and rifle men and between were placed the remaining riflemen and the others differently armed. Two large boulders were placed on the rails and the wire fences at each side were pulled up to afford a safe exit. The station building a short distance away was taken possession of and a green light displayed.

"There were seven carriages on the train and it was travelling at a great speed when it struck the stones. "Fire was opened from both sides and bombs were hurled through the windows. The fire was returned from the cab of the engine, where a Lewis gun was in position. Our riflemen as

GERMANY APPEALS TO U.S. TO ACT AS MEDIATOR

London, April 22.—The drastic effort of Germany to induce the United States to arbitrate the reparations question, and the refusal of the United States to sit in judgment on the merits of the vexing problem, have lent new interest to the conference next Sunday between Premier Briand of France and Premier Lloyd George of England. The expressed desire of the United States that there be immediate resumption of negotiations has brought a new element into the situation, as it had been supposed that the Premiers would merely consider plans for further occupation of Germany and not a renewal of exchanges between London, Paris and Berlin.

JOHN SKELTON WILLIAMS AT STATE COLLEGE

Raleigh, N. C., April 22.—John Skelton Williams, former president of the Seaboard Air Line Railway, and during the Wilson administration Comptroller of the Currency of the United States Treasury, has accepted the invitation of President Wallace C. Riddick to deliver the commencement address at State College on May 30.

In announcing the coming of Mr. Williams, Dr. Riddick stated last night that it was with keen pleasure that his visit to Raleigh is anticipated. He has spoken in Raleigh before, and is remembered very favorably here. The address will be made on Monday evening of commencement week in Pullen Hall.

Mr. Williams is one of the big financiers of America, a student of finance and business, who has upheld high standards as a man and as an official. He has ability and leadership and courage, and always has ideas that he presents forcibly. The State will give him a great welcome.

Dutch After American Tourists

(By Associated Press)

The Hague, April 22.—To encourage tourist travel in Holland this summer the Dutch Government has removed many of the passport restrictions which American tourists met here a year ago.

Visas are now granted which are valid for six months, without necessity of securing new ones for entering and leaving the country during that period, and registration with the police is no longer necessary for travelers from America, unless they remain longer than one month.

Belgium has made similar arrangements, eliminating so far as possible the necessity for frequent trips to consuls etc., but because the United States charges a fee of \$10 for vizing the passport of a foreigner, Belgium retaliates by making an equal charge for Americans, although travelers of other nationalities pay a much smaller fee.

The rear end of the train got down on the line for enfilading fire, but after about ten minutes, I was forced to order a retreat to effect the safe escape of our men. Eight bombs were thrown, two of which we are certain landed in carriages.

"In the retreat one of our two parties was surrounded twice but fought its way through on each occasion. One of our men is missing and we believe he has fallen into the hands of the enemy. No other casualties were suffered on our side and, despite their denial, we have every reason to believe that at least ten men were either killed or wounded on the enemy side."

ATTEMPT MADE TO BRING SINN FEIN AND GOVERNMENT INTO CONFERENCE

(By Associated Press)

Dublin, April 22.—What is described as an eleventh hour attempt to bring the Sinn Fein leaders and the government into negotiations before the election for the new Irish Parliament, is being made here. The mediators are said to have been working a month to bring this conference about hoping that some satisfactory agreement could be reached before the elections. The mediators include business men, clergy men and unofficial representatives of the government.

POLAND CLAIMS OLDEST SPINSTER

Warsaw, April 22.—Poland claims the oldest spinster in Central Europe. She is Miss Anna Dobek, living in Chocholow, who recently celebrated her 123d birthday. Miss Dobek is still quite active, physically and mentally, and does some house work each day.

She also has a sense of humor, and to her acquaintances, attributes her longevity to the fact that she has never been bothered by having a man about the house. Miss Dobek doesn't like cats, either.

TO CONSOLIDATE FEDERAL BUREAUS

MELLON ORDERS CHANGES RECOMMENDED BY DAWES BE MADE EFFECTIVE

(By Associated Press)

Washington, April 22.—Transfer from the public health service and the consolidation with the bureau of war risks insurance of all work, offices and personnel of the public health service connected with the medical treatment of disabled war veterans was ordered today by Secretary Mellon.

An exception is made, however, in the operation of hospitals and dispensaries, which will remain under the public health service. The consolidation order was recommended by the president's special committee, of which Charles G. Dawes, of Chicago, was chairman, and Mr. Mellon said it was a step toward the consolidation of the government agencies which deal with former service men and women.

The treasury secretary announced that all field officers of the public health service over the country engaged in examining and finding suitable beds for the service men would be taken over by the war risk bureau, as would all contracts with private institutions for the treatment of such men.

"The bureau," he said, "will establish an adequate force of medical inspectors to insure proper and effective treatment of patients in whatever institutions they may be placed. The fourteen district supervisors who have heretofore been a part of the public health service are in conference at the bureau of war risk insurance with the directors and other officers, so that the reorganization may be put into active effect throughout the country without delay or complication."

FRENCH DISAPPOINTED IN UNITED STATES REPLY TO GERMANY

(By Associated Press)

Paris, April 22.—In French official circles great disappointment was expressed that the American reply to Germany was not a categorical refusal as had been expected here. America's answer is interpreted here as an invitation to Germany to renew negotiations with the allies.

Berlin, April 22.—The trend of comment in Berlin newspapers on Germany's appeal to President Harding for mediation in reparations question were written in absence of knowledge of what the American reply would be. It was skeptical of any good coming from German move, the most frequently struck being one of resignation and despair over the circumstances which prompted Germany's action.

MINE OWNERS AND PREMIER IN CONFERENCE TODAY

(By Associated Press)

London, April 22.—British mine owners and leaders of miner's federation meet Premier Lloyd George today to discuss the coal crisis. The meeting is being held at the invitation of Premier Lloyd George. The conference of miners' delegates scheduled for today has been postponed until tomorrow.

WEATHER REPORT

For North Carolina: Showers tonight, Saturday unsettled with showers in East portion not much change in temperature increasing south and southwest winds.

Dog Smuggled By Airplane

(By Associated Press)

London, April 21.—Dog smuggling by airplane has arrested the interest of the House of Lords which recently devoted part of an afternoon to a discussion of the subject.

The pampered toy-dog was roundly excoriated by a number of their lordships, Lord Willoughby de Broke supporting Lord Bedislow in a demand that "such useless brutes" be excluded from the country.

It was pointed out that it is an easy task for a person to smuggle the small lap dog into the country in a muff or basket.

The Ministry of Agriculture promised to renew its vigilance in the matter of preventing dog-smuggling and to increase the penalties if necessary.

SOUTH AMERICAN COAST-TO-COAST RACE

(By Associated Press)

Santiago, Chile, April 21.—The first coast-to-coast automobile race in South America will soon be attempted between Buenos Aires and Santiago, according to plans now being completed by the newspapers El Mercurio of this city and La Nacion of the Argentine capital.

A route several hundred miles south of here has been suggested since the mountain passes directly east of Santiago, through which the trans-Andean railway is laid, are closed to automobile traffic owing to perpetual snows.