

THE COMMONWEALTH

VOL. XIV.—NUMBER 73.

FOUR O'CLOCK EDITION

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 1922.

TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE

5c PER COPY

All Obstacles to Construction of Bridge And Highway Removed

Carolina Play-makers to Visit Scotland Neck

ONE OF THE POINTS WHICH WILL BE MADE IN TOUR OF EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA

(By Robert W. Madry)
Chapel Hill, Jan. 12.—"I am certainly glad that we are going to play in Scotland Neck," said Professor Frederick H. Koch, director of The Carolina Playmakers, in discussing today the maximum tour of Eastern Carolina which begins next week. "Yes, I have heard a great deal about Scotland Neck, its progressive spirit, its hospitality and especially its good people," he continued.

"It's a town that we have been wanting to play ever since this work was begun. And in this connection Scotland Neck should consider itself honored, for up to the present The Playmakers have only toured the large towns of the State. In fact, Roanoke Rapids is the only other town of similar size that is booked for this trip, the others being larger.

But The Carolina Playmakers is not an organization that is looking for the dollar, as Professor Koch explained. Its aim is simply to build up a native drama in North Carolina, drawn from the abundant store of tradition as well as from the life of the present day. There are expenses to be met, however, and it is to offset these that any charge whatsoever is made for admission.

The players themselves receive nothing by way of pecuniary reward. The plays are written by the students in the University, the best being selected on a basis of competition, and those who succeed in playing the various roles give freely of their time, often to the neglect of other duties. But the costumes and scenery must be paid for, and then travelling expenses these days are not light. "That's why we must have a certain guarantee before we can play a town," Professor Koch explained.

A Big Furniture Sale

The business interests and merchants of the town continue to be wide awake and bidding for trade. The latest special sale to be put on is that now being conducted by the Scotland Neck Furniture Company, of which Mr. Ralph A. Phillips is owner and manager. He reports that the first day was a splendid success and that he anticipates the largest business even enjoyed by his concern. Such sales serve to advertise the town and the merchants in the surrounding territory, as the sales are well and thoroughly advertised.

FORMER GOVERNMENT ENQUIRES IF FORD WOULD BUY NAVY

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Jan. 13.—Henry Ford said that the French government had asked if he would consider the purchase of its battleships, and he replied that unless he could buy the entire French navy he would not be interested. He said that no answer had been received.

It has just been learned that all obstacles to the immediate construction of the bridge across Roanoke River and the building of the State Highway through Scotland Neck to Tarboro have been removed and that contract will be let for this work just as soon as practicable.

In view of the withdrawal of the injunction proceedings and all objection to the highway route as proposed between Scotland Neck and Tarboro, Mr. W. A. Hart District Highway Commissioner, has stated that he would use all his influence and efforts at the very first opportunity, and as soon as funds are available, to have a road built from Scotland Neck connecting with the highway at Williamston and running by way of Hogwood.

This will be welcome news to this entire section, and it is gratifying that this whole matter has been settled in this way without further proceedings and controversy.

It means that not only will Scotland Neck have two highways, and eventually three, centering here, but that it will open up a splendid territory across Roanoke River and will enable the peoples on either side of the river to become acquainted and be real neighbors, as they should have been all these years past. It will put the towns of Rich Square and Jackson within twelve or fifteen miles of Scotland Neck, where one now has to travel about sixty miles to reach them.

Scotland Neck will welcome its neighbors across the river and will be glad to grasp their hand as friend.

GERMANY DOES NOT FAVOR RELEASE OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Berlin, Jan. 13.—Germany probably will continue to own and operate her railways, posts, telegraphs and waterways, despite efforts by certain industrial and political leaders to induce the government to sell these public utilities to private interests.

Government ownership of railways appears to have become a stable policy following this campaign and it is staunchly supported by socialistic, democratic, liberal and labor elements.

The campaign against government ownership followed the piling up of enormous deficits by all the railways and the pressure of Entente creditors for payment of Germany's war indemnities. It was argued that the roads could be made to pay a profit under private ownership and would thus be a material help to the nation in its financial dilemma.

Railroads of Germany always have been under government control but until the revolution the properties were vested in several. The systems, however, were consolidated under the Central government when the Socialists came into power.

The Socialists object to vesting ownership of public utilities in private hands.

China And Pottery

(By U. S. Press.)
Washington, Jan. 3.—Two and a half times as much German china and porcelain reached the United States in January-November, 1921, on the basis of declared values, as in the first 11 months of 1920; a gain that more than accounted for the increase of \$904,630 in the total value of the American imports of this class of ware during the period.

POLITICAL PRISONERS RELEASED

By The Associated Press
London, Jan. 13.—Irish political prisoners in London jails were released under King George's amnesty proclamation instructions sent to provincial jails for similar releases.

WEATHER REPORT

For North Carolina: Cloudy and somewhat warmer tonight. Probably light snow in the mountains. Saturday fair. Fresh south and southwest winds.

BUSINESS OF RUSSIA AND RUMANIA INTERRUPTED BY EXCHANGE OF NOTES

Moscow, Jan. 13.—(The Associated Press.)—The business conditions of both Russia and Rumania continue to be affected by the uninterrupted exchange of diplomatic notes between those countries during a period of two years over the possession of Bessarabia, now occupied by the Rumanian army with civil officials cooperating in the occupation.

Business men near Russian frontiers have been frightened by these notes, thinking they would lead to war at any time. American business men and bankers in Constantinople have refused loans or participation in investments involving either Rumania or the Ukraine because of these notes.

Yet, to any one who has observed the tenor of these notes and read between the lines, they have never appeared serious. Rumanians and Russian politicians have understood each other perfectly all the while and probably laughed in their sleeves while penning vitriolic notes which, had any other countries been involved, would have either terminated in war or a reasonable adjustment.

Bessarabia, in pre-war days, was a Russian province, best known in the United States as the seat of frequent Jewish massacres, especially at Kishinev. In the general war, the Rumanians and Bulgars fled to Bessarabia. The national treasure and crown jewels together with the jewels of the ordinary citizens of the city were bundled upon the royal train escaping from General Mackensen and taken to Russia, and later to Moscow. A little later Russia went Bolshevik, and this treasure was absorbed by the new government.

What has for several years proved an apparent misfortune to Rumania may now be a blessing in disguise. It may lead Soviet Russia, unable to pay back this money, to surrender Bessarabia. During all the long notes between the two foreign offices, there has been a sarcastic tendency on the part of the Rumanians to ask: "When do you intend to return that money you stole?"

George Chit-cherina, the Russian Foreign Minister, has not infrequently asked: "When will Rumania's squatter army skedaddle?" The impression prevails here that Russia with her new economic policy, will not only refrain from war but conclude to let Rumania remain in occupation for several years at least. Then, when the horizon is clear and business good, a Russian army may march in and take Bessarabia.

GERMANY GRANTED DELAY IN PAYMENTS

Cannes, Jan. 14th.—The Allied Reparations Commission has decided to grant Germany a provisional delay on her reparations account.

Cannes, Jan. 14th.—Supreme Council, after examining the situation created by the departure of the French, ruled that decisions on which complete agreements had been reached, should become operative especially to Genoa conference.

EXPECT COMPLETED TREATY READY MONDAY

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Jan. 13.—A State Department spokesman said that the Arms delegates had given up hope of putting the Naval Treaty in final shape for announcement at the plenary session this week, it appeared probable, when the "Big Five" resumed their discussion, that the completed treaty would be ready for the full naval committee tomorrow or Monday.

Washington, Jan. 13.—President Millerand directed M. Sarraut, head of the French Arms delegation to continue in that capacity until the end of the Conference.

MATERIAL REDUCTION IN FREIGHT RATES IS GRANTED

It has just been learned that the local agents of Atlantic Coast Line Railroad has received schedules of reduction in freight rates on agricultural products aggregating an average of around 10 per cent. Some of the rates and reductions shown, are as follows: On flour from Virginia cities the rate now is 28½, old rate 31½; sorghum feed, old rate 25, now 22; meal was 19, now 17; peanuts, was 27, now 24½; cotton, was 50, now 45.

DECREASE IN FAVORABLE TRADE BALANCE

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Jan. 14.—A decrease of nearly one billion dollars in the favorable trade balance of the United States during nineteen and twenty-one is indicated in Foreign Trade statistics for December, issued by the Commerce Department. The report attributed much of the reduction to the material decline in the prices of commodities, which made up the bulk of the country's foreign trade.

NATIONS INVITED TO GENOA ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

(By Associated Press.)
Cannes, Jan. 13.—Invitations to the Genoa Economic Conference have been forwarded to the various nations. The United States, and the more important nations, have been asked to send a minimum of three delegates and a maximum of five. March the eighth is the date tentatively fixed for the meeting.

Claude Kitchin Says Kirby, Republican, Is Masquerading As A Democrat

Under a Washington date line an article appeared in yesterday's News & Observer quoting numerous statements made by John H. Kirby, of the Southern Tariff Association, charging that Congressman Claude Kitchin has preached "a pernicious doctrine of free raw material" which is "accepted by a large majority of the Democratic members of the House," and that through such a doctrine "the Democratic 'Solid South' will be broken."

Replying to the criticism that he advocated the doctrine of "free raw material," Mr. Kitchin said, "In asserting that I advocated the doctrine of 'free raw materials' in my declaration of Democratic tariff principles and policies to my democratic colleagues of last session, he misquoted and misrepresented me and he knew it. He has been a lobbyist and star witness in Washington for the special interests for the last fifteen years; he has kept strictly up with my record, which has been strong, persistent and consistent against his pernicious Republican doctrines. Neither by speech nor writing have I ever advocated the so-called doctrine of 'free raw material, nor can he point to a single utterance I have ever made, or a single word I have ever written showing that I favored or advocated such a doctrine as a part of the creed, or principle, or policy of the Democratic party. I have frequently favored and advocated that certain raw materials should be put on the free list and therefore untaxed, as have more than four-fifths of the Democrats in and out of Congress for more than half a century—ever since the Democratic act of 1857.

"For instance, when the Democratic platform of 1908 declared that lumber, wood pulp and print paper should be placed in the free list, I favored and advocated it in congress in 1909, these being put on the free list. So did four-fifths of the Democrats in Congress. I have favored and advocated that leather and many other articles of necessity being put on the free list. So have nine-tenths of the Democrats in Congress. I have favored and advocated that all articles should be placed on the free list. So raw material or finished product, should be placed on the free list. So have nine-tenths of the Democrats in and out of Congress."

In his statement Mr. Kirby stated that he felt commissioned to warn Democratic leaders to "repudiate the tariff policy advocated by Mr. Kitchin and the Democratic party." Is Mr. Kirby commissioned by the special interests, or by the people? Congressman Kitchin stated that Kirby has been a lobbyist and star witness in Washington for the special interests for the past fifteen years. That he has repeatedly appeared before Congress asking favors for the special interests; that he testified under oath last session before the Ways and Means Committee that he supported Harding, and that he had frequently contributed to the Republican campaign fund; but still he claims to be a good Democrat. He said further, that Kirby is trying to put him, and the Democratic party on record as favoring free tariff on raw material. Mr. Kitchin said that neither he himself, nor the Democratic party favored putting all raw material on the free list, but that there was some which should be on and some which should not be.

Finally, Mr. Kitchin said that Kirby's record is too clear in the minds of all thinking Democrats for his statements to have any effect upon the Democracy of the South. All knows him to be one of their Democrats who are always shouting their Democracy and always supporting by vote and purse, the Republican ticket and Republican policies.

NEWBERRY'S FRIENDS DECLARE THE VOTE VINDICATED HIM

(By Associated Press.)
Detroit, Jan. 13.—Political leaders associated with Senator Newberry in nineteen and eighteen election joined in declaring that the vote of the Senate, giving Newberry his seat, was a vindication of the charges of corruption brought against him.

Mr. Irwin Clark New City Clerk

Feeling that the business of the town has grown to such proportions as to require the full time service of a city clerk, who will collect all taxes, water and light rents, etc., was needed, at a recent meeting the Board elected Mr. Irwin Clark to the office and he will assume his new duties shortly, and will have office at the Mayor's Office.

FORMER PREMIER POINCARÉ AGAIN TO FRONT

(By Associated Press.)
Paris, Jan. 13.—The Impression prevails that Raymond Poincaré will complete the cabinet and submit it to the President for his approval.

The many friends of Mr. W. A. Lockyer will regret to know that he received a telegram from Washington, N. C., this afternoon stating that his sister Mrs. Thomas died today.

COTTON MARKET	
TODAY'S MARKET	
January	17.95
March	17.88
May	17.54
July	17.39
October	16.45
YESTERDAY'S MARKET	
January	18.01
March	17.89
May	17.49
July	17.19
October	16.12