

GOV. CRAIG'S COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL REFORM MEET

More Than 1,500 Letters Asking For Suggestions Have Been Mailed.

PROCEDURE

Sentiment Developing For Abolition of Rotary System of Judges—This With All Things Relating to Better Methods Will be Considered.

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 6.—The commission appointed by Governor Craig for the reform of judicial procedure was called together by Chief Justice Clark yesterday and will be in session through today getting together the material upon which the commission will work.

More than 1,500 letters have been written to the people of the state for such data as would aid in ridding a progressive state of a cumbersome court procedure. The legislative reference librarian, W. S. Wilson, who is also secretary of this commission, has written letters to all parts of the civilized world, even to those nations now murdering each other in the old world.

Many of the recommendations that are to be offered have been printed in these columns. Among laymen and lawyers is a large sentiment for abolition of the rotation system of judges.

The suggestion of Major Graham, the lay member of the commission, showing the great loss of time by judges, has caused much agreeable comment, but the commission itself has not embodied its views in shape for comment. It expects to get this done and set down in form for the printers. The result of their work will determine the character of the changes, whether constitutional or by legislative enactment.

When the report is submitted late this afternoon it will embody the best that the five members each working on his assignment, have been able to do.

Chief Justice Clark, Judge W. J. Adams, Ex-Judge W. P. Bynum, Senator L. V. Bassett and Major W. A. Graham are the members.

One after another county officer stood up before the commissioners of Wake yesterday and defended his record against Solicitor H. E. Norris who warned the county servants that if such evils as he has discovered are not corrected by the Democrats another party will do so.

Old time Wake county politics may be expected for 1916, the regular year and the biennial period for "turning 'em out." In this year Solicitor Norris is expected to make that long promised race against Congressman E. W. Pou and men who think they observe wisely and see far believe that Mr. Norris has fired his first big gun. They recognize him as a powerful politician as well as a tremendous prosecutor and without undertaking to calculate the advantage of such a fight in Wake, they nevertheless expect the shrewd solicitor to get that prestige if it happens to be floating about.

FIERCE FIGHT ON AUSTRIAN LINE FORCES THEM BACK

Unofficial Russian Reports Claim Austrians Occupy Second Defences.

IN THE WEST

German Repulse Hand Grenade Attack at Le Mesnil—French Pound Tautonic Line Between Soissons and Rheims.

Russian pressure on the Austrian line at Volhynia south to Buckowina and official reports indicate that the fighting is of a desperate and sanguinary character.

Reports of the evacuation of Zernowitz by the Austrians were not confirmed. Petrograd unofficial advices claim that the Russians have compelled the defenders of the city to fall back upon their second lines of defence.

The French are pounding heavily on the German trenches in the Champagne and between Soissons and Rheims, and claim notable damage by their bombardment.

Attack Repulsed. Berlin, January 6 (By wireless to Sayville).—A French hand grenade attack against the German line near Le Mesnil was easily repulsed, the German army headquarters announced today.

PREPAREDNESS BEFORE CONGRESS

Committees Hearing Statements of Experts Regarding New Program.

Washington, Jan. 6.—The question of national preparedness was again today occupying the center of the stage in Congressional committee activities.

Bearing on the administration's National defence program begun today in the House committee on Military Affairs, with Secretary of War Garrison as the star witness, and the House Committee on Naval Affairs continued its hearing on the annual naval appropriation bill.

Secretary Garrison had prepared a detailed statement of the army's part in the National preparedness plan. Rear Admiral Stanford, chief of the Naval Bureau of Docks and Yards, resumed his statement as to the needs of an additional station when the naval committee took up the mater of docks and yards today.

SANTA CLAUS TO HAVE ALL YEAR PALACE

New York, Jan. 6.—The Santa Claus Association, which has been in existence for about three years, has planned to build here an all-the-year-round palace for Santa Claus. A huge building of marble will be erected, to be unique in form and in purpose. It will be the first attempt in this country to erect a monument to an ideal, instead of to an individual. The Santa Claus Association was originated by John D. Gluck, as a benefit to poor children. The proposed building is intended as a national monument to Santa Claus, where the children of America can visit the genial old fellow at any time of the year.

AMATEUR HOCKEY LEAGUE

Boston, Jan. 6.—Twenty games are on the schedule of the Amateur Hockey League, the season of which opens here tonight with the Harvard Club of Boston line-up against the Crescent A. C. Eight games will be played here and twelve on the St. Nicholas rink in New York.

CHILD LABOR BILL

Washington, January 6.—The House Committee on Labor agreed today to hold a hearing on Monday on the proposed Child Labor Bill. W. W. Kitchin, former Governor of North Carolina, will be among the advocates of the bill to appear at the hearing.

AMERICAN WOMAN VICERENE



London, Jan. 6.—By the appointment of Lewis Vernon Harcourt to succeed Baron Harding as Viceroy of India, an American woman, for the second time will occupy the position of Vicerene of the British Colony. The first American Vicerene of India was Lady Curzon, former Mary Leiter of Chicago, who married Lord Curzon. Lady Curzon died on July 20th, 1909. Mrs. Harcourt was formerly Miss Mary Ethel Burns, eldest daughter of the late Walter H. Burns of New York. Her mother was a sister of the late J. P. Morgan. She was married to Mr. Harcourt in 1899 and has become one of the most prominent figures in British official society.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS BEFORE COMMITTEE

Foreign Relations Committee of Senate Considers International Matters.

Washington, Jan. 6.—The general international situation including the crisis in the relations between the United States and the Central Powers over submarine warfare will be considered at a meeting tomorrow of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee the meeting being called by Chairman Stone.

BULGARIA VOTES BIG WAR MONEY

Credit of \$100,000,000 Approved by Its Parliament With Enthusiasm.

London, Jan. 6.—A war credit of \$100,000,000 was enthusiastically approved by the Bulgarian parliament, says a dispatch to the Times from Salonika. All sections of the opposition voted with the government.

TEDDY SOON TO TOUR THE TROPICS

New York, January 6.—Col. Theodore Roosevelt will start February 15 on a trip to the West Indies, from which he will not return until April 1, it was announced today. He will be accompanied by Mrs. Roosevelt.

BURTON MAKES BID FOR NEW ENGLAND SUPPORT

Boston, January 6.—Former Senator Theodore E. Burton, Ohio's favorite son in the contest for the Republican nomination for the Presidency, is making his bid for New England support in a speech which he will deliver at the Chamber of Commerce. His talk is not of political character, so far as his own candidacy is concerned, but it promises an attack on the Wilson administration. The subjects he will take up are the project of government-owned merchant marine and the effects of the recently-enacted seamen's law.

ITALIAN LINER HAD GUNS ABOARD

Uncle Sam Says They Must Come Down Before Steamer Can Leave New York.

New York, Jan. 6.—The Italian liner Giuseppe Verdi from Genoa, Naples and Palermo arrived here today carrying two four-inch naval guns on her stern. Passengers stated they understood that the Italian government had given instructions for the guns to be mounted.

BANKS TO REPORT THEIR CONDITION

Washington, Jan. 6.—The Comptroller of Currency today issued a call to all national banks, requesting them to report to him their conditions at the close of business Friday, Dec. 31st.

PASSENGERS SAFELY ON WAY TO NEW YORK

New York, Jan. 6.—The passengers and crew of the Greek steamer Tessaioniki are on their way to this port today, having abandoned the disabled liner and left her more than 300 miles southeast of Sandy Hook. The 300 passengers are aboard the Greek steamer Patria, while the crew took refuge on board the steam Perugia, bound from Genoa and Gibraltar to New York.

PASSENGERS SCATTERED FOR MILES IN RIVER

Parkersburg, W. Va., Jan. 6.—Capt. Brady M. Berry and 62 passengers of the steamer Kanawha, which sank in the Ohio river last night, arrived here early today on a special train sent out by the Baltimore and Ohio Railway Company to pick up the survivors who were scattered along miles of riverfront on the West Virginia side.

MUST DISMOUNT GUNS

Washington, Jan. 6.—The State Department will take up the question of the guns on board the Italian steamer Giuseppe Verdi, with a view to having them dismounted before clearance papers are issued.

COLD WAVE

Washington, January 6.—A moderate cold wave prevailed today and will continue today and Friday from the Mississippi to the Atlantic, the cold extending southward toward the Gulf.

GARRISON WANTS MILLION SOLDIERS

Statement to House Committee Advocates Tremendous Increase For Military. OVER \$600,000,000 IN INCREASED EXPENSE

NO COUNTRY TO GO BANKRUPT

Definite Military Policy Presented Involves Building Great Army, Accumulating Huge Ammunition Reserve, and Extending Coast Defence.

Washington, January 6.—Secretary Garrison laid before the House Military Affairs committee today his formal argument in behalf of the administration's army plan which is designed to give the country a definite military policy. It proposes the creation of the mobile Federal force of more than a million men in six years, accumulation of a huge reserve of ammunition and equipment and elaborate extension of the coast defenses, the whole project involving an increased expense of \$600,000,000 and an annual War Department budget thereafter of more than \$200,000,000 as compared with an average of \$100,000,000 for the last few years.

"The integrity of the nation and its very existence," the secretary said, "reading from a lengthy statement he had prepared, depend upon what is done in this matter at this time. This great opportunity will be lost unless a wise, sensible and practical policy is the result of the consideration and action of this Congress."

Referring to the farspread military responsibilities of the nation, reaching into the insular possessions, China, Alaska and the Panama Canal Zone, Mr. Garrison added:

"We have determined and announced that the sovereignty of the other republics on this hemisphere shall remain inviolable, and must therefore at all times stand ready to make good our position in this connection."

He then quoted figures to show the full strength of the army on June 30, last—105,993 officers and men of the combatant forces, and their present distribution. To these should be added, he said, 1,183 officers and 17,818 men of the non-combatant arms of the service, bringing the total number of Federal troops up to 106,619. He pointed out that the item of pay alone made up approximately 50 per cent. of the total proposed appropriations.

The United States including Alaska, said the secretary, is of greater area than the combined total of Austria-Hungary, Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan Portugal, Russia in Europe, Spain and Turkey in Europe, the total of these areas representing only 97 per cent. of that of the United States.

"It will be necessary," he added, "to be conceded by anyone who admits that military force is requisite at all that our present military force is to capabilities."

"The chaos which a crisis always produces where preparations in advance have not been made, makes it certain that several months of necessity would intervene after the outbreak of war before any considerable number of volunteers would be ready to take their training, and months of training must then ensue before they could be ready to be sent into battle."

A similar delay would meet the effort to assemble arms, equipment and ammunition, Mr. Garrison said, and he insisted that if it accomplished nothing more, the plan now proposed would obviate much of this loss of time.

"There is a disposition upon the part of some," he continued, "to assume that we are facing a crisis. The only way to meet any emergency is by adopting emergency measures. The personnel and material needed for military purposes should be immediately mobilized. Every nerve should be strained, and every resource drawn upon, and nothing overlooked necessary to preserve and defend us, regardless of cost and of other considerations."

"In my view, the occasion calls for the adoption of a wise, sensible, adequate military policy, on permanent lines and for definite ends."

"There is common agreement among those who have studied the subject intelligently that we should have a force in the continental United States of 500,000 men subject to instant call."

"Modern warfare, while it has demonstrated the increased use of mechanical instruments of war, has also demonstrated the increased use of numbers. In addition, therefore, to those with the colors subject to instant call, there should be at all times in the country large numbers of men available, by reason of previous service for military purposes."

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