

Fair tonight. Saturday increasing cloudiness with probably rain. Rising temperature. East winds.

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

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WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 12, 1917.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

"LEAK WENT OVER BOLLING'S WIRE," CAMPBELL SAYS

Kansas Representative Hints Brother of President's Wife Is Responsible.

NO EVIDENCE FOUND, REPORTED TO HOUSE.

Representative Wood Declares He Has No Apology to Offer For Introduction of His Resolution.

Washington, Jan. 12.—Taunted by Republicans who charged that the Democratic majority did not dare investigate further charges of a "leak," the House Democrats abandoned plans for closing the inquiry and recommended that Representative Wood's resolution be given to the House rules committee for future action.

Washington, Jan. 12.—The "leak" investigation was brought into the House today with the report by the Democratic majority that no evidence had been found to constitute a general investigation, and the opposing Republican minority which contended that evidence is shown.

Representative Campbell, of Kansas, Republican, charged the "leak" on the President's peace note went from Washington over the private wire of Frank Arthur Connolly & Co., local brokers. This is the firm in which Robert Bolling, a brother of the President's wife, is a member.

The majority report presented by Chairman Henry said: "No evidence adduced sustaining charges in Representative Wood's resolutions."

Representative Clark offered as a substitute his resolution to make the widest possible inquiry into all angles of the alleged "leak."

Representative Wood, of Indiana, author of the resolution, addressed the House declaring that he had no apology to make for his action.

"I was compelled to introduce the proper resolution," Mr. Wood said, "because everywhere both in and out of Congress it was generally believed that prominent men in high places profited by the 'leak.'"

"There is still a general belief through the country there is something wrong somewhere. Every member of the House believes there was a leak. As to whether the leak was purposely or not, there may be a difference of opinion."

Representative Harrison, of Mississippi, Democrat, attacked Representative Wood and all other Republicans who were opposing unfavorable action by the Democratic majority on the Lawson "leak" charge. He maintained that partisan politics are responsible.

"I don't believe there was a leak," he said.

"There were thousands of ways that news of the coming note could have gotten out."

Representative Lenroot, Republican, also spoke for an investigation. "I reluctantly have been compelled to conclude by the action of the Democratic majority," he said, "that there is a member of Congress who this rules committee desires to protect, and I am compelled to conclude that he is a Democrat."

Hisses from the Democratic side of the House with applause from the Republican side followed this statement.

Representative Garner, Democrat, of Tennessee, declared as there was no evidence of a leak, the suggestion was found by the committee that there was no member of the House connected with the stock gamble transaction or "leak."

COL. HOUSE AND WILSON STUDYING ENTENTE ANSWER

President's Adviser Arrived in Washington Late Last Night.

ALL PEACE DOORS ARE NOT CLOSED BY ALLIES.

Cabinet Meeting Is On In Effort to Determine Next Move to Be Taken By United States.

Washington, Jan. 12.—President Wilson today began a careful and deliberate examination of the peace note answer received yesterday from the entente powers, to determine what opportunity is offered for further peace movements and what is to be accomplished.

The note is being discussed at a cabinet meeting between President Wilson and Col. Edward House, who arrived in Washington late last night. All quarters agreed that while the completed reply for a statement of terms seems to offer no hope for an early peace, fortunately all doors are not closed.

Several courses lie before the President. Among them is another move to ask Germany to state specifically what terms they would agree on, as the entente has done.

Diplomats say that this course would be perfectly legitimate as between one set to the other.

Without exception all the German diplomats here were out-spoken in their denunciation of the Entente Allies' answer to President Wilson's peace note, declaring that the terms would never be accepted.

Admitting the note is much more severe than they expected it is declared the German allies are prepared to fight on.

The next step of the United States is the utmost deliberation, and because of the delicate stage of the situation it would not be a surprise if future negotiations are conducted in the strictest secrecy.

At the White House extraordinary reserve is being observed. It is said President Wilson will not be hurried to a decision.

Secretary Lansing refused to discuss the Entente reply to President Wilson's peace note on the grounds that it had not yet been carefully read. He refused to state that either the Entente reply will be forwarded to the Central Powers or whether the German note will be sent to the Entente.

Pending the most careful examination of the situation, briefly, it is felt that the Allies have stated their terms while refusing a conference whereas the Germans have suggested a conference without stating their terms. Nevertheless it is felt that the situation is decidedly clarified.

President Wilson's original statement in his note to the neutrals that neutrality is intolerable to the United States, and Secretary Lansing's statement that the country is on the verge of war is recalled in view of recent developments.

Ambassador Bernstorff reiterated his statement that Germany will not violate her submarine pledges, but this is held as incompatible with activities that could not be tolerated by this nation on a basis such as divergent views on international law.

ATLANTA WIFE HAS HER HUBBY UNDER THUMB.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 12.—They are telling this little story on a young and popular, though somewhat henpecked Atlanta husband:

His pretty young wife was bragging at a card party about her husband's good resolutions.

"He has actually quit smoking after making a furnace of himself for years," she declared.

"Don't be too certain," warned a friend. "It requires an iron will to break the nicotine habit."

"Well, I've got one," retorted the wife.

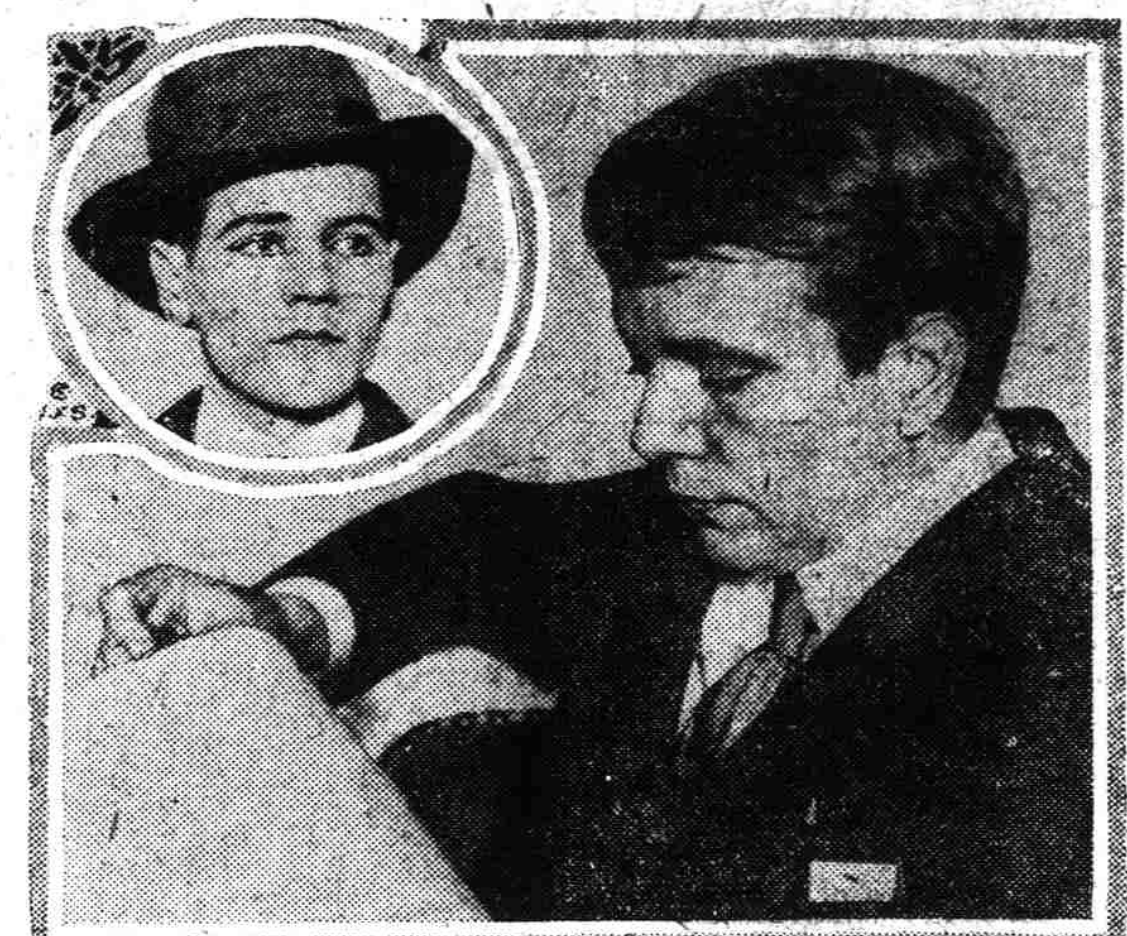
THERE IS A WOMAN CO-SHERIFF, GEORGIA.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 12.—The enterprising little city of Decatur, which is Atlanta's next door neighbor, is showing her big sister some speed when it comes to women's rights.

The new sheriff of DeKalb county, of which Decatur is the county seat, has made his wife a deputy and she is acting as chief assistant, being popularly known as the county's "co-sheriff."

Three young women are deputies in the office of the clerk of superior court while three others are assistants in the office of the tax collector.

Harry K. Thaw and Boy Accuser



HARRY K. THAW & FREDERICK GUMP JR. (in circle)

First picture of Frederick Gump, Jr., son of a wealthy Kansas City business man, who alleges that Harry K. Thaw, lured him from Long Beach, Cal., to a New York hotel and there beat him

SECOND RING OFFER ENDS AT NINE P. M. TOMORROW

Just Two Days Left in Which to Make Yourself a Winner of a Beautiful Diamond Ring or Insure One of The Other Prizes—Get in Every Subscription Possible.

- TODAY'S LEADERS. Mrs. Herbert McCartney, 90,510; Blanche Surles, 90,245; Ethel Grimsley, 89,785; Pauline Renfrow, 89,524; Mrs. Earnest A. Taylor, 88,925; Maude Ivey, 88,310; Mamie Baldwin, 88,265; Gussie Skipper, 87,804.

Only one more day. At the first stroke of nine tomorrow night the second special prize offer and the second period The Dispatch contest will be finally closed.

Wilmington contestants must have their subscriptions in by 9 o'clock tomorrow night to count on the diamond ring and to receive the second period "Club Votes," but out-of-town candidates can mail their subscriptions and money any time Saturday and they will count as this week's business.

Never again during the contest will so many "Club Votes" be given, as are now given during the second period, which is about to close. After tomorrow, each \$15 worth of subscriptions will give 130,000 extra votes, 10,000 less than during this period.

The diamond ring is to be awarded the candidate who turns in the largest amount of money for new subscriptions during the two weeks ending tomorrow, who does not win one of the more valuable prizes, or the first diamond ring. Only new business counts for the ring, but both old and new subscriptions are affected by the reduction to be made on clubs at the close of the second period.

If you would be the winner of the diamond ring, or if you would be numbered among the happy ones who will receive the other prizes, make every minute of the last day count. With the right kind of work during the one day that remains, you can secure a reserve vote which will win one of the big prizes, or the diamond ring. Let your watchword from now until tomorrow night be, "Subscriptions, Subscriptions, and Subscriptions. Get as many as you can, everyone that you can, all that you can. Do not hold back at this critical time in the race. Jump in and be a winner! You can if you will.

Very few candidates participated in the voting yesterday, most of them being too busy getting subscriptions to think about depositing votes. And after all, they are right, because the 29th of January, the last day of the contest, is the day to be ahead. The ones who will be ahead on that day will be the winners.

Notwithstanding the light vote, there are all new leaders for today. Mrs. Herbert McCartney gets highest honors, as she leads the entire field. This is the first time Mrs. McCartney has reached the honor roll, and it will undoubtedly be a surprise to her

friends and competitors. Miss Blanche Surles, Proctorville, the popular candidate from Robeson county, is in second place. Miss Surles is certainly making a beautiful race, and her many friends are predicting that she will be one of the big prize winners.

In third place is Miss Ethel Grimsley, of Freeman, who is another of the hustling candidates.

IT WOULD ALLOW THE ABSENTEES TO CAST BALLOTS

Doughton Introduced Such Measure In The Senate House Today.

PENSION BILL ALSO INTRODUCED.

Christmas Check Action Goes Over—Senate Adjourned Until Monday Afternoon. House Takes Recess.

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 12.—Representative Doughton introduced in the House today an absentee voters' act, enabling such citizens as cannot personally vote to make affidavit and mail their wishes to election officers. The House worked twenty minutes, and adjourned.

It received a pension act by Brummitt, of Granville, increasing by \$8 each pensioner's pay. This would mean about \$100,000 additional to the amount now appropriated.

Ellis Gardner, of Yancey, abolished the county treasurer's office, the so-called bill passed by the House, which adjourned until 11:30 Saturday morning.

The Senate did barely more work than the House. It killed the McRary resolution, providing for the verification of the Rush bills. Senators Person, Scales and Jones opposed the expense, objected to the supervision of capable lawyers by outsiders, and wished to be responsible for their own wisdom or unwisdom.

Senators Allen and Linn favored the act. The Senate adjourned until 3:30 o'clock Monday afternoon, having moved up the special order as to refunding the Christmas checks sent to prisoners.

The Senate convened at 11 o'clock with prayer by Rev. J. E. Underwood, presiding elder for the Raleigh district.

A message came from the House to the effect that that branch of the Legislature was ready to form in line for the procession to the city auditorium for the inaugural ceremonies. However, it was understood that there was yet considerable time before the legislators should proceed to the auditorium and routine business was taken up and so informed the House that the start would be made from the rotunda of the State House at 11:40, which would give ample time for them to reach the auditorium in advance of the inaugural party.

There was a motion by Senator Oates that when the Senate adjourns today it be to Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock to give the senators a much needed rest. This matter was left open to the afternoon session. A leave of absence was granted for Senator Ray, of Gaston, until Tuesday and to Senator Brock, of Jones, until Monday.

The House resolution to invite William Jennings Bryan to address a joint session of the Senate and House at his convenience, probably Monday, came up and was amended to extend a similar invitation to Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels, expected to be here at the same time.

Objection was raised by Senator Brenner for the reason that he considered such action the establishment of a bad precedent in such matters. He believed such a course would detract from the dignity of the assembly to have private citizens and others come before the body and present their causes. There was hearty agreement on the part of Senator Little, of Anson, and others, the view seeming to pervade a number of the opposition remarks that the burden of the address by Mr. Bryan would be the prohibition clause.

A vigorous defense of the invitation was by Senator Everett, of Richmond county, who especially advocated his amendment to include Secretary Daniels. He denied that any precedent was being established and that each assembly was a law unto itself in those matters. He was proud of the record Mr. Daniels is making and that he was a citizen of North Carolina and of Raleigh.

Senator Oates proclaimed Mr. Bryan as second only to Woodrow Wilson in America. He believed the Senate and House of Representatives would be honored to hear Mr. Bryan and Mr. Daniels.

Opposing the resolution Senator Justice said that as a private citizen he had gone 150 miles to hear Mr. Bryan, but that as a senator representing the people and taking no direction from outsiders, he opposed extending invitations to anybody. The adoption of the resolution was urged by Senator Turner, Senator Gough and Senator McNider. Support also came from Senator Jones, of Buncombe, who said he was from "Mr. Bryan's home town." Also, Senator Cranmer advocated the resolution, Senator McNider opposed the Daniels

(Continued on Page Eight.)

HALF A MILLION RUSSIAN SHELLS EXPLODE IN N. J.

Huge Ammunition Plant at King Island is Destroyed by Explosions and Fire.

LOSS IS PLACED AT OVER \$4,000,000.

Shells Blown Four Miles Around Plant—Short Interval Between Discovery Fire; Explosions.

New York, Jan. 12.—The eighty-acre ammunition plant of the Canadian Car & Foundry Co., near King Island, N. J., is a scarred and blackened ruin today, after being swept by flames and plowed by bursting shells last night.

Fire is still smouldering in spots today, but the firemen stand helpless nearby watching the few remaining shells explode. Half a million shells exploded during the fire. The firemen are now closing in cautiously.

There is no official report of loss of life among the 1,400 employees. Their escape is attributed to the short interval between the discovery of the fire and the moment it took to reach the ammunition.

The loss is placed at more than \$4,000,000, and is accounted for almost entirely by a description of shells being made for the Russian government.

Although the country immediately surrounding the plant was subject to a terrific bombardment, the loss is not as great as was first estimated due to the fact that the shells had not been equipped with detonators. Detonating devices are not placed on the shells until they are turned over to the Russians. For the reason the projectiles came down like solid shot.

It is believed the first fire originated from a tube of alcohol ignited from a glowing insulator from an electric wire.

Police today issued a warning against picking up remaining shells of the thousands which were blown a distance of four miles around the fire-swept plant. It is feared many of the spectators have picked up shells as souvenirs. They are urged by the police to handle them carefully. The New York police have been instructed to search for shells thought to have been picked up and brought this city.

INVADING TEUTONS TAKE LABURTEA; RUSS PRESSED

Austro-Hungarians and Bulgarians Beat Off Entente Allies.

BRITISH GAIN AN INITIAL SUCCESS.

Heavy Fighting Which Increased in Violence Yesterday is Still in Progress On Russian Frontier.

Berlin, (via Wireless to Sayville), Jan. 12.—The Rumanian town of Laburtea was captured yesterday by the invading Teutons, according to dispatches from the war office. The Russians were driven back towards the Sereth river towards Galacia.

An engagement on the western end of the Macedonian front is also announced by the war department, in which Austro-Hungarians and Bulgarian troops beat off the entente allies, is reported in Macedonia.

Two attacks were made by British troops on the French front yesterday along the Ancre river. North of Beaucourt the British gained initial successes, it is announced from war department headquarters, but were driven back with heavy losses.

Heavy fighting which increased in violence yesterday is in progress on the Russian frontier between Dvina and south of Dvinsk. Russian attacks along the Villma-Dvinsk railroad were also made, but were repulsed with heavy losses, says the statement.

No Important Events.

Paris, Jan. 12.—There are no events of any importance reported on the French frontier, announced the war office today.

THAW TO RECOVER PROVIDING HE DID NOT TAKE POISON

Probably Will Leave Hospital Within Two Weeks—He Rests Easily.

SLOW POISON SLIPS FOUND IN POCKETS.

Detectives Guard Hospital and Await Dismissal With Warrants For Arrest on Two Charges.

Philadelphia, Jan. 12.—Harry Thaw, who yesterday slashed his throat with a razor and arteries in his wrist in an attempt to commit suicide when detectives closed in on the house in which he was hiding, will be able to leave the hospital within two weeks, unless he also swallowed poison tablets, according to his family physician.

Several tablets which are said to produce a slow death were found in his pockets.

Thaw said he was hungry during the night and was given food, but efforts of detectives to get him to talk were futile. He said, however, that he was glad that he had not succeeded in taking his life.

Inquiries whether he took the poison met with no responses. Detectives are on guard at his bedside and have warrants ready to serve on him the moment he leaves the hospital.

Thaw's attempt at self destruction was the climax of a search in New York for him last Tuesday, where he is wanted on charges of assaulting and kidnapping Frederick Gump, of Kansas City, 19-year-old high school lad, Christmas night.

According to private detectives Thaw declared that the charge was the result of an attempt to blackmail him. He spent a very good night, resting quietly, according to the report of the hospital, and attempted to be cheerful, and spoke pleasantly to the Sister attending nurse. Otherwise, he had very little to say.

WON'T INSTRUCT JURY LEWIS IS HER SLAYER.

Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 12.—Coroner Knight, who is looking into the murder mystery of Mazie Colbert, artist model, said today that unless more direct evidence in connection with her death is found he would not instruct a jury at the inquest to bring in a verdict that Bernard Lewis is her slayer.

GENERAL JOFFRE IS 65 YEARS OF AGE.

Paris, Jan. 12.—General Joseph Joffre, in whose honor the title and rank of a marshal of France has been revived on the occasion of his retirement from the chief command of the French armies, celebrated his sixty-fifth birthday anniversary today, having been born January 12, 1852, in the Pyrenees-Orientales. General Joffre's retirement marks the close of an active military career that has extended over a period of more than forty years.

At the outbreak of the present war he was filling the position of chief of staff. Previous to that time he had made his greatest reputation as a military engineer. Before the war was many days old, however, he had given evidence of his mastery of all branches of military science. It was due to General Joffre's genius of strategy, more than to any other one factor that entered into the situation, that the Germans were defeated from their march on Paris and then driven back toward the frontier.

Big Carnival of Sports. New York, Jan. 12.—Seldom has ever an athletic meet brought together such class athletes as those who will compete tomorrow night at the annual indoor track and field games of the Irish-American Athletic Club, at the Seventy-first Regiment armory. Fourteen events, including a number of special and invitation races, will be decided and in each of them some of the greatest athletes in the country will compete. Every kind of a champion is entered and in many of the events it will be champion against champion.