

North and South Carolina—Fair tonight and Friday. Somewhat colder.

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WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY A

ERNOON, JANUARY 18, 1917

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

FOUR MORE VESSELS SENT TO BOTTOM, IS SAID OFFICIALLY

English Steamer: Auchen Craig, Kinpurney, Garfield and Danish: Omsk.

\$20,000,000 IS LOST IN CARGOES ON SHIPS.

Cordon of British Cruisers Believed to Be Sweeping Seas In Search of German Raider Though Responsible.

(By Associated Press.) London, Jan. 18.—Lloyds announces that the British steamer Auchen Craig, 3,916 tons, the sailing ship Kinpurney and the Danish steamer Omsk, 1,574 tons, have been sunk. It was later announced that the British steamer of 1,574 tons, which was sent to the bottom, had been reported to have been captured by a German submarine on January 13 to January 16 when the vessel was ordered to discharge her cargo.

\$20,000,000 Loss. New York, Jan. 18.—With the possibility that the German sea raider which sank or captured 15 to 20 score of allied ships is still continuing her depredations, steamship owners and marine underwriters were in a state of nervous tension today. The losses in ships and cargoes thus far represent from \$15,000,000 to \$20,000,000.

A cordon of British cruisers, reported to number 15, is believed to be sweeping the Southern seas in search of the raider, which according to one report may be the auxiliary cruiser Vindex; according to another the raider is the same sea-raider which played havoc with allied shipping about a year ago.

Steamship circles were especially concerned today over a wireless warning that the German raider was working northward to more frequent lanes of steamship travel. The possibility that the raider may have armed and manned one or more of her prizes and dispatched them also on commerce preying missions was another source of anxiety today. One report was that the British steamer St. Theodore was thus transformed.

Definite news of the fate of this vessel and of the Yarrowdale reported to have on board some of the crews of other captured vessels, was still lacking today.

BANK OF ENGLAND DISCOUNT FALLS

Is Reduced From 6 to 5 1-2 Per Cent—Gold Situation Is Well in Hand.

(By Associated Press.) London, Jan. 18.—The rate of discount of the Bank of England was reduced from 6 to 5 1-2 per cent today. The reduction was regarded as an indication that the gold situation and the situation of the foreign exchanges are well in hand, so that maintenance of the 6 per cent rate is no longer necessary. The market believes that the chief purpose, however, is to bring the official minimum rate in line with the interest on the new loan and benefit the banks which were lending on the new loan at a minimum charge of 5 per cent. Their charge now will be only one-half of one per cent under the bank rate.

The official announcement that interest will be allowed on fully paid application for the war loan before the end of January is expected to bring in large subscriptions which otherwise would be held over until near the time of the closing of the list near the middle of February.

PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION IN HONOR OF DEWEY IS PLANNED FOR FUNERAL.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Jan. 18.—A great public demonstration to honor Admiral Dewey at his funeral here Saturday was being planned today by various Government departments. Public services will be held in the capitol rotunda at 11 o'clock and the funeral cortege up Pennsylvania avenue from the Dewey home, where private services will be held earlier. High officials, midshipmen from Annapolis, sailors and marines, and other army and navy units will be in the procession. Congress will be adjourned for the day and all Government departments will close. At noon all senior ships of the navy, wherever they are stationed in the world, will fire a salute of 19 guns in honor of the dead admiral. Flags are to be at half mast and the navy building will be draped in black.

LANSING DENIES HE BREAKFASTED WITH B. BARUCH

Declares to His Knowledge He Never Saw Banker, and Doesn't Know Him

OUT OF WASHINGTON ONCE SINCE ELECTION.

Postponed "Leak" Hearing Is to Be Resumed Next Week With Secretary of State On Stand.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Jan. 18.—Postmaster General Burleson and Solicitor General Davis conferred today with Democratic members of the Rules Committee discussing the future conduct of the leak inquiry.

Mr. Burleson frequently conveys to congressional leaders personal messages and the wishes of President Wilson regarding legislation. Chairman Henry declined to say what feature of the discussion brought either Burleson or Davis into the conference.

A dozen widely known attorneys were under consideration for the position of counsel to the committee. No decision was reached. Lindley M. Garrison former secretary of war is being urged by many members of the House. Employment of Mr. Garrison, it was learned, is being seriously considered. Thomas W. Lawson has left Washington but will re-appear before the committee desiring his presence.

It was regarded as probable that investigation of Wall Street conditions and the market fluctuations during December when the alleged peace note leak occurred, will be made in New York.

The Secretary denies statements made at the hearing that he had breakfasted at the Biltmore hotel. He said he did not know Mr. Baruch and never had any conversations with him.

Secretary Lansing's authorized statement was as follows: "While I dislike very much to dignify by denial false and malicious scandal, at the same time the publicity which has been given to some of the reports warrant me in saying that, in regard to the statement that I breakfasted several times with Mr. Baruch at the Biltmore hotel, implying, I assume, that I gave him advance information concerning the substitution of an 8-hour standard for the present 100 miles in 10 hours freight service scale the railroads' new brief contends, would create out of confusion in existing wage arrangements and amount to arbitrary judicial enforcement. Such interpretation it was said, would operate to increase many freight employees' wages 62 1-2 per cent. If the Adamson law does not prevent railroads from abolishing 'trip' wage scales, the railroads' brief states, the employees must also have the right to reduce the mileage 'days work' schedule to 80 miles a day and reduce the pay for such mileage.

R. R. COUNSEL FILES SUPPLEMENTAL BRIEF.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Jan. 18.—In the Adamson law test case before the Supreme Court counsel for the railroads today filed a supplemental brief replying to that of the Department of Justice, suggesting practical methods for giving effect to the law. The substitution of an 8-hour standard for the present 100 miles in 10 hours freight service scale the railroads' new brief contends, would create out of confusion in existing wage arrangements and amount to arbitrary judicial enforcement. Such interpretation it was said, would operate to increase many freight employees' wages 62 1-2 per cent. If the Adamson law does not prevent railroads from abolishing 'trip' wage scales, the railroads' brief states, the employees must also have the right to reduce the mileage 'days work' schedule to 80 miles a day and reduce the pay for such mileage.

ANDREWS MOVES FOR BIGGER MASONIC PAY

(Special to The Dispatch.) Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 18.—The Grand Lodge in session here yesterday pondered the suggestion of Grand Master Alex Andrews that the incoming grand master be paid a salary of \$1,000 annually. Mr. Andrews thinks it takes a great deal of time for the officer and should have pay. In his opinion, the time consumed is at least a fourth of what he has to give.

YOUNG ADVISES A FIREPROOF STATE HOUSE, IN REPORT

Insurance Commissioner Declares Plans Should Be Made to Safeguard Records.

BETTER SALARIES ARE RECOMMENDED

His Department Has Had Great Growth During The Last 18 Years, When It Became Separate Office

(Special to The Dispatch.) Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 18.—Insurance Commissioner James R. Young in his biennial report to the Governor yesterday again warns the State that the capitol is far from fireproof and that it should be made so to safeguard the State records.

The department which began 18 years ago when it came from under the management of Dr. Cy Thompson, then secretary of State, has had great growth until now it is a sort of expert training school in which men get equipment for leaving to enter some insurance field in which mule feed isn't predicated upon legislative whim. The commissioner recommends better salaries. He has lost in W. J. Cameron, retiring actuary, his fourth good man.

The report of the commissioner would have been fine material for McCaskill in the series of debates with Congressman Godwin. McCaskill's greatest cause for viewing with alarm was the increase in the commissioner's salary. A few years ago it was \$9,000, McCaskill said, but he had been "reliably informed" that it is now \$17,500. Well, Commissioner Young says it costs \$20,000 annually to operate the department and that isn't enough.

"During the fiscal year ending April 1, 1916, the commissioner paid to the State Treasurer \$348,780.90," says Mr. Young, and that ran the total amount to \$3,887,060.80, beginning with the formation of the department, of course. Mr. Young says the annual increase is about \$15,000 and he expects the 1917 report to range about \$365,000.

Then he discusses supervision, the admission of companies into the State to do business; the fire marshal laws; the building and inspection laws, exits, and fire escapes; publication of statements; firemen's relief funds; complaints and violations; approval of contracts; rate-making bureaus and associations; insurance on State buildings and building and loan associations; and investment and promotion companies.

In his list of recommendations he urges first building and clerical help, the frequent changes made because salaries are small having a bad effect upon the work. The employment of a regular examiner for building and loan associations and the employment of a publicity man are vital needs, he thinks.

He suggests the standard fire policy and asks changes in charters and capital stock. He wants the general assembly to enact the whole family insurance act recommended by the National convention of insurance commissioners. And he urges a workmen's compensation act. He would have the State increase its insurance upon its property and cover the possible losses better. The \$10,000 first appropriated would have been sufficient then but growth in amount and value makes it necessary for more. Not exceeding 30 per cent of the value of State buildings is now covered, he says and formerly 80 per cent was protected. And worse still is the protection afforded inmates in these State buildings.

PROCLAMATION TELLS OF NEED OF BIG ARMY.

(By Associated Press.) London, Jan. 18.—A Warsaw dispatch to Reuters by way of Amsterdam quotes a proclamation issued to the Poles by the provisions state council of Poland. The proclamation says in part: "The great world historical task of our people is the revival of this state, its up-building and future expansion to countries which have been snatched from Russia and which inclines toward Poland." "The creation of a large and well disciplined Polish army, which will be ready to fight, is a necessity for us. Such an army represents the principal conditions of an independent state and will contribute greatly toward the realization of the frontiers necessary to Poland."

WOULD GIVE THE HOME OWNER MORE CHANGE IN LIFE

Bill Introduced in House to Exempt Certain Mortgages From Taxation.

GOV. BICKETT MADE RECOMMENDATION.

House Passes Clark's Anti-Usury Bill—Pender Folks Crowd The Lobbies—Other Matters.

(Special to The Dispatch.) Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 18.—Governor Bickett's inaugural recommendation for a Constitutional amendment that will exempt from taxation all notes, mortgages and other evidences of indebtedness, given in good faith for purchase of homes, was the chief House measure today.

Representative Beasley, of Union, introduced it. It would encourage the lending of money to home seekers and exempt from taxation not less than five nor more than twenty years. The Beasley bill provides for an election in November 1918 conducted under the regular law.

The House passed Representative Clark's anti-usury bill, providing that debtors may claim the penalty charged when their loans are covered by mortgage. The lobbies were crowded today with Pender county delegations here to fight for and against the stock law repeal. Blue badges, representing the progressives demanding that the local law be left on the books, outnumbered the reds, who flaunted their colors with the 524 against the law. The blues cry "Save Pender," and the reds "Save Pender's Democracy." The contest takes place Friday.

Wordy opposition to Governor Craig's Christmas present to the State convicts kept the Senate in long session, but the vote showed only ten willing to oppose it. By 35 to 10 the Senate passed the resolution, which ratifies the action of the Governor and prison board in sending 10 gifts to families of convicts in the State prison. The minority divided with the majority and several supported Governor Craig heartily.

The Senators justified the action to the existing law and others who could not were satisfied that it was so high. (Continued on Page Eight.)

Only Nine More Days To Work For Prizes

Looks Like Anybody's Race at This Time—All New Leaders Today—Miss Mary Hewlett Forges to Front For The First Time.

- TODAY'S LEADERS. Mary C. Hewlett . . . 109,997 \* \* \* Maude Ivey . . . 109,833 \* \* \* Pauline Newsome . . . 109,573 \* \* \* Frankie Anderson . . . 109,120 \* \* \* Elizabeth Sloan . . . 108,920 \* \* \* Annie Lee Adkins . . . 108,650 \* \* \* Mrs. Fred W. Dock . . . 108,315 \* \* \* Mrs. E. A. Taylor . . . 107,903 \* \* \*

- THE PRIZES. \$685 Overland Automobile. Ford Automobile. Carolina Beach Lot, \$100 in Gold. \$75 Victrola. \$50 O. K. Mystic Range. \$70 Sellers Kitchen Cabinet. \$25 Wrist Watch. Two \$60 Diamond Rings.

Think of it—only nine more days to work and win the prize you want. The contestants who are willing to work, and work hard during this time, are the ones who will win. Better get out and secure enough subscriptions to win the prizes of your choice. Any of them are worth your very best effort.

Nine more days—and they are very short. But the honors of winning a prize will not fly. They will bring a constant reminder of the esteem in which the winners are held by their friends. But the finish—aye! It is still a debatable question who the winners will be.

The Dispatch representatives as well as contestants, are buttonholed every day and asked the latest reports in regard to this or that one's chances for success. Invariably they are told from now on it is an equal chance among the huters. Don't lose heart because your favorite's name is at or near the bottom of the list or tabulated report each day. That candidate may be wiser than deemed. There is no telling how many votes she may cast before the final closing of the polls, Monday, Jan. 29.

SECOND-ENTENTE NOTE ENCOURAGES PEACE OFFICIALS

Allies Supplementary Epistle Amplifying Reply to Wilson is Promising.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS IS NOW ANTICIPATED.

While President's Next Step is Not Known, Believed Note to Give Opportunity For Some Sort Sanction.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Jan. 18.—Great Britain's supplementary note amplifying the Entente reply to President Wilson's peace note has given much encouragement to American officials who are looking forward to some sort of league of nations to preserve peace.

Although the principal portions in foreign minister Balfour's note delivered to the State Department yesterday, are designed to justify the severity of the terms set forth by the Entente in their reply to the note of President Wilson, the formal acceptance in principle of some sort of National sanction as a force behind treaties and International law, is regarded as of great importance.

It has been stated officially that President Wilson's next step has not been determined upon. Many officials believe the terms of the British note may afford the opportunity for a move toward the establishment of some such National sanction, even if it be with the view of leaving it come into force after the close of the war.

INDIA'S WAR LOAN WILL HELP ENTENTE

(By Associated Press.) London, Jan. 18.—The India office announced that the government has arranged to issue a war loan of unlimited amount in India. The entire proceeds will be handed to the British government for war purposes.

RUSS, CONTINUING ON ATTACK, HOLDS KAISER'S MEN BACK

STRIVE TO CHECK PLAGUE EPIDEMIC

Authorities Join Forces Drawing Quarantine Lines Closer In W. Va., Towns.

(By Associated Press.) Fairmont, W. Va., Jan. 18.—Quarantine lines were being tightened today in Elkins, Grafton, and Fairmont because of the epidemic of infantile paralysis and State municipal authorities joined forces in an effort to check the disease.

The situation, they declared, had become no worse and hope was expressed that betterment would be noted within the next few days. Two suspected cases here are being closely watched, and one, the case of an 18 year old boy, who was believed to have been suffering from a strained back, has been definitely placed as infantile paralysis.

GOOD CONDITIONS SURPRISE FUNSTON

He Returns From 175-Mile Inspection Trip of U. S. Expedition.

(By Associated Press.) Field Headquarters Punitive Expedition Funston returned from Colonel Dublin from El Valley tonight, thus completing the inspection of a 175-mile line of communication and the review of some ten thousand men. "The experience is surprising," General Funston said. "For until now I did not fully realize the responsibility of the officers and men of the expedition and I do not believe that the American people fully appreciate what a job this expedition has had and how well it has carried out its orders."

FIVE PLANES READY TO CONTINUE SEARCH FOR MISSING U. S. OFFICERS

(By Associated Press.) Calexico, Cal., Jan. 18.—Five military aeroplanes are ready today to continue the search for Lieutenant Colonel Harry G. Bishop and Lieutenant W. A. Robertson, army fliers, who have been missing since January 10, when they attempted a flight from San Diego, Cal., to this city.

Three military aeroplanes are here and two more are expected today from the army aviation school at San Diego. The search is being continued by parties on horseback and in automobiles and the military governor of Lower California is putting fresh forces into the field today.

NINE THOUGHT KILLED AS BARGE IS STRANDED.

(By Associated Press.) Lunenburg, N. S., Jan. 18.—Captain Hatfield, of St. Johns, N. B., and his crew of eight are believed to have perished when the Dominion dredge No. 6 ran ashore off Bag Ledges Tor Bay, Guysboro coast today.

BRITISH NEAR LOOS ARE DRIVEN BACK.

Rumanian Troops Surround Height and Capture Large Number of Prisoners and Machine Guns.

(By Associated Press.) The Russians apparently still are on the offensive along the Rumanian front. Berlin, in its official report today, records no aggressive activities by the Teutonic forces, except for a raiding operation on the Moldavian frontier, while mentioning the repulse of a strong attack by the Russians in the Otuz valley region.

On the Franco-Belgian front, the driving back of the British near Loos after an advance in connection with a mine explosion is reported by the German staff. The recent British attack near Serre was made upon an advanced position which had been evacuated by the Germans, it is declared, the British attacking after the empty trenches had been bombarded for several days.

On the naval side of the war interest centers in the operations of the German sea raider in the South Atlantic, which has sunk or captured at least 13 Entente merchant vessels and so far as is known is still at large. Latest reports were that the raider was apparently working northward to lanes of steamship travel more frequented. Nearly a score of Entente warships are said to be searching for her.

No news has been received of the whereabouts of the steamer Yarrowdale, said to have on board the crews of several ships sunk or captured by the raider, in accordance with the 237 men landed at Pernambuco by a Japanese steamer. Petrograd's statement on the operations in Rumania chronicles a Rumanian success southwest of Pralau on the Moldavian western front, where a night was surrounded and a large number of prisoners and four machine guns captured by Rumanian troops. No gains for either side resulted from the fighting on the remainder of the front.

GERMANS REPULSED.

(By Associated Press.) Petrograd, Jan. 18.—Via London—(British admiralty per wireless press)—The repulse of Teutonic attacks along the Northern Rumanian front is reported in today's official announcement.

GERMANS EVACUATE.

Berlin, Jan. 18 (Via Sayville)—Evacuation of German positions near Serre, on the Somme front, was announced by the War office today. A British attack near Loos was repulsed after violent fighting. "Western front—Army group of Crown Prince Rupprecht, the explosion of a British mine near Loos was followed by a brief engagement during which the enemy who had advanced, was speedily repulsed in violent hand-to-hand fighting.

RAIDING OPERATIONS AND ARTILLERY ACTIVITY ALONG THE FRONT IN RUSSIA AND GALICIA.

"Eastern front—Front of Prince Leopold—The weather being clear, the artillery activity on both sides was considerably livelier in many sectors of the front. "North of Krashin, Russian raiding detachments of ten-fold numerical superiority entered an advanced outpost. The outpost is against in our possession. At other places raiding detachments and patrols were repulsed."

OF THE OPERATIONS ON THE MACEDONIAN FRONT THE STATEMENT SAYS:

"There have been minor fighting activities at isolated points." An attack made by the Russians yesterday on the Northern Rumanian front south of the Otuz road broke down under the German fire, the war office announces. "The statement reads: "Front of Archduke Joseph—while South of the Otuz road and attack made by strong Russian forces broke down under our artillery and machine gun fire, we, by a surprise attack between the Suchitza and Putna valleys, succeeded in taking from hostile positions one officer and 230 men prisoners and one machine gun. "Front of Field Marshal von Mackensen—In Dobruja, for some days past, Tulchota and Isakoha have been shelled by Russian artillery. Several inhabitants, mostly women and children, have been killed." Bulgarian artillery has been vigorously bombarding from the Dobruja side of the Danube hostile shipping in that stream and Entente military forces are being evacuated from the coast today. (Continued on Page Eight.)