

# WEATHER FORECAST.

North and South Carolina—Fair to night. Saturday unsettled. Not much change in temperature.

VOL. XXII. NO. 370.

## RUSSO-RUMANIANS KEEP THEIR HOLD IN HEAVY FIGHTS

Are Apparently More Than Retaining Own Against Von Mackensen.

QUIET IS BROKEN ONLY BY BRITISH ACTIVITIES.

German Troops Are Being Concentrated Across Line From Basel—Teutons Contemplate an Offensive.

(By Associated Press.) Heavy fighting is still in progress on the Rumanian front, with the Russians and Rumanians apparently more than holding their own, for the time at least, against Field Marshal von Mackensen's armies. Elsewhere in the field of military operations there have been few activities of importance.

This holds true of the Franco-Belgian front, where the quiet has been broken recently only by the British activities north of the Somme, which have resulted in advances for them recently near Beaucourt-sur-Ancre. Indications are not lacking, however, that the present comparatively peaceful conditions are not likely to endure long in this connection, the extreme southern sector of the line is being closely watched.

The French here occupy a considerable section of Alsace, the fighting line touching the Swiss border between Belfort and Basel. Concentration of German troops, and a belief is said to exist in Switzerland that the Germans contemplate an offensive with the object of driving the Swiss of the invaders.

The Swiss federal council early this week, while expressing confidence that none of the powers contemplated a violation of Swiss neutrality, ordered the mobilization of additional troops as a measure of precaution.

Switzerland recently that they would continue to respect neutrality. No further news of the whereabouts of the German sea raider which has been sinking entente ships in the South Atlantic has been received but the arrival at Cape Verde Islands of the British steamer Yarrowdale with eight of the ships dispoised of by the raider said to number some 400 persons, is reported as additional evidence received at Rio Janeiro.

**Heavy Bombarding.** Berlin, Jan. 19 (Via Sayville).—The Russians made attacks yesterday on German positions along the Northern Rumanian front, north of the Suchava valley. According to today's official announcement these attacks ended with heavy losses.

The town of Oena on the railroad line which virtually parallels a considerable section of the front along the Moldavian southwest frontier, (Continued on Page Three.)

## WILSON CONFERS WITH SENATORS TO HURRY LEGISLATURE

Questionable Political Status Coming Into Power Causes President to Act.

HE LAYS PARTICULAR STRESS ON R. R. BILL.

Program Outlined in Opening Address to Congress Is Gone Over By President For Two Hours Today.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Jan. 19.—In an effort to clear the legislative calendar of administration measures before the next House, with questionable political status, coming into power, President Wilson conferred at the capitol today with the Senate steering committee. For two hours he went over the program he outlined in his opening address to Congress last December, giving particular stress upon the railroad measures. He said that he still desired enactment of the whole program before March 4 if possible. In addition to revenue legislation the President also urged action on a corrupt practices bill, the Webb bill to permit domestic corporations to maintain collective foreign selling agencies, water power and mineral land leasing measures and the Porc Rican citizenship bill.

Although there was no suggestion of an extra session in case the President's program cannot be completed by March 4, Senator Kern declared that the thought in the minds of all was that it would be much less difficult to enact the measures to which the dominant party has been committed at this session than in the past Congress.

**CIGARETTE PRICE IS RAISED, 1 TO 3 CENTS.**

(By Associated Press.) New York, Jan. 19.—Increased prices for cigarettes were announced here today by the United States Cigar Stores Company and the Tobacco Products Corporation. Advances by the United States, to become effective next Monday, range from 1 to 3 cents a box of a dozen cigarettes. The higher cost of labor, tobacco and wrapping material is given as the reason. The increases by the Tobacco Products Corporation, effective at once, scale from 25 cents to \$1 for each thousand cigarettes.

## Does Your Favorite Hold Position On Honor Roll?

By Paying Your Subscription Now You Can Boost Your Favorite and Also Save Money—Largest Vote Yesterday Was Cast By Miss Lorenzo.

**TODAY'S LEADERS.**

Miss J. W. Griffin, 115,390  
Miss Mary Lorenzo, 115,385  
Miss Pauline Renfrow, 115,015  
Miss Ethel Grimsley, 114,860  
Miss Blanche Surles, 114,785  
Miss Gussie Skipper, 114,533  
Miss Judge Cockrell, 113,921  
Miss J. E. Holton, 113,067

**THE PRIZES.**

\$635 Overland Automobile.  
Ford Automobile.  
Carolina Beach Lot.  
\$190 in Gold.  
\$75 Victrola.  
\$50 O. K. Mystic Range.  
\$75 Sellers Kitchen Cabinet.  
\$25 Wrist Watch.  
Two \$60 Diamond Rings.

Only a few of the candidates took part in the voting yesterday, but those who did vote cast enough to cause a general shake-up in position, and today you will find by referring to "Today's Leaders," that there are several new names on the Honor Roll.

Miss J. W. Griffin, of Evergreen, has her name at the head of the list for the first time since the Honor Roll has been published, and her many friends will no doubt be glad to see that she has made the jump from "down in the list" to "First Place."

Friends of Miss Mary Lorenzo, of Wilmington, will be glad to see her name on the Honor Roll once more. Miss Lorenzo has not been doing

much voting for the last few days, and in order to let her friends as well as her opponents know that she was still in the race to win, she cast enough votes to put her in second place, with only a few less than the leader. The total vote cast by Miss Lorenzo was 43,400 votes, the largest vote cast by any one candidate yesterday.

Fair Bluff is represented today by Miss Pauline Renfrow, while Miss Ethel Grimsley represents Freeman. Others appearing on the Honor Roll today are: Miss Blanche Surles, of Proctorville; Miss Gussie Skipper, of Town Creek; Miss Virginia Cockrell, of Winter Park; and Mrs. J. E. Holton, of Wilmington.

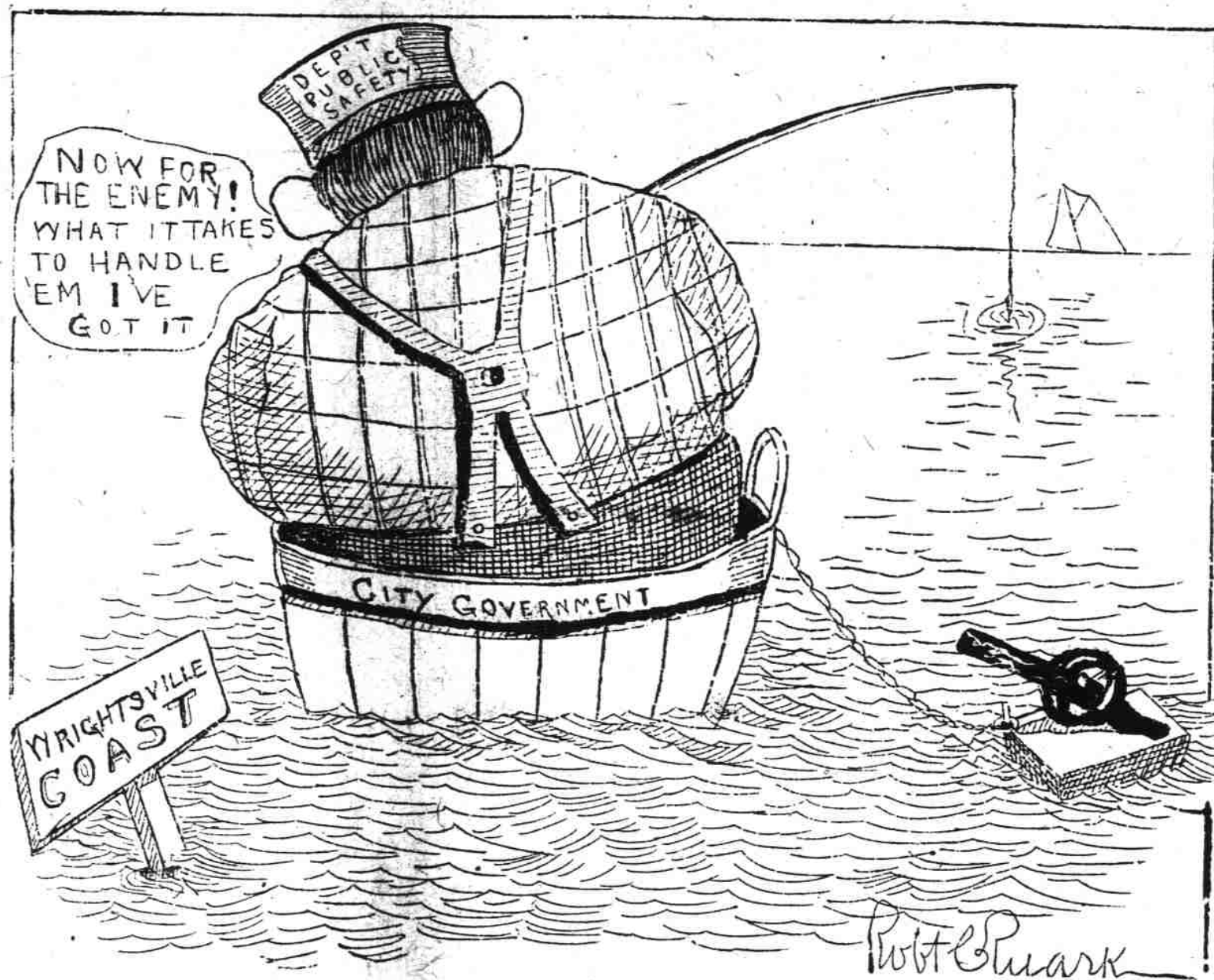
Is your favorite contestant in the honor position this evening in the list of contestants? Is she keeping pace with her competitors in the steadily race for the best of the number of magnificent prizes? If not, why not? Possibly one yearly subscription given this week would turn the tide in her favor. It may be that just a little support and encouragement from you would make her the winner of the Overland Automobile, or one of the other valuable prizes. Have you stopped to think about it? If not, do so now. Send in your subscription with full instructions to give the votes to your favorite and this will be handled in the same way as though she turned it in herself. Then by giving your subscription now you will save money, as the paper will be increased to fifteen cents a week after February 12th. By paying a yearly subscription in advance you will not only boost your favorite candidate hundreds of votes, but will save \$2.60.

Very little work has been done by some of the candidates the last few days, and the end is rapidly drawing near. Make up your mind that you are going to be among the fortunate winners, and work the next eight days to attain that end. Surely you cannot afford to lose by a few votes—better to win by a million than lose by a hundred.

(Continued on Page Seven.)

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 19, 1917.

## PREPAREDNESS UP-TO-DATE



## KAISER WITHDRAWS UNNEUTRAL MARK

Minister Vopicka is Free Today of Bad Conduct Allegation.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Jan. 19.—Germany has withdrawn her charges of unneutral conduct against Minister Vopicka, accredited to Rumania, Serbia and Bulgaria, it was announced today at the State Department. An explanation of the full facts in the charges of unneutral conduct was made to Germany, which proved satisfactory. It is probable that Minister Vopicka, now in Berlin, will be granted leave of absence, which he requested many months ago and to which he is entitled, in order to avoid any embarrassment in the sending him on to his post at the Rumanian capital at Jassy, just after gaining considerable military information in his trip through the Central Empires.

The removal of Minister Vopicka from Bucharest was explained by Germany to have had nothing to do with the previous charges of unneutral conduct, but to have been occasioned by the insistence of the military authorities that all neutral diplomats be withdrawn. This is in accord with international law, as the diplomat is accredited to the government and not to the locality. All other neutrals have left except the Persian minister, who is to go shortly.

Who will care for American interests in the occupied part of Rumania and for the allied legations and interests entrusted to Minister Vopicka by the allied diplomatists has not been decided. There is no American consulate nearby and it is probable that a special agent with consular rank will be dispatched shortly by the department.

## SPANELL SIDE OF CASE ADMITTED

Testimony Which State Attempted to Exclude Yesterday Is Allowed.

(By Associated Press.) San Angelo, Texas, Jan. 19.—Judge C. E. DuBoise, presiding in the trial of Harry J. Spanell, charged with the killing of his wife, and Lieutenant Colonel M. C. Butler, at Alpine, last July, today admitted testimony, which the State sought to have excluded yesterday, regarding Spanell's affection for and devotion to his wife and child.

This testimony was elicited by the defense during cross-examination of Mrs. J. W. Downum, who, with her husband, running the hotel now at Alpine, formerly owned by Spanell. Judge DuBoise overruled objections by the State, but on the request of State counsel that they be permitted to "look up authorities, withdrew his ruling until today.

Practically all the forenoon was spent in argument over the question and it was not until a short time before the noon recess that J. W. Downum, the last witness, yesterday was again called to the stand. The State announced that it would except to the court's ruling.

## 374 MINERS IN 1916 KILLED IN WEST VA.

(By Associated Press.) Charleston, W. Va., Jan. 19.—Earl Henry, chief of the Department of Mines, today announced that 374 miners had been killed in the mines of the State during 1916.

## UNION HEAD HITS "SWISS" SYSTEM MILITARY TRAINING

Naturalized American Citizen, Trained Under "System" Criticizes Severely.

**DECLARES SWISS ARMY IS NOT DEMOCRATIC.**

His Testimony Makes Profound Impression on Committee—Says Plan is a Very Loose One.

(By George H. Manning.) Washington, D. C., Jan. 19.—The "Swiss system" of military training, which has been considered by a great many people in the United States as a model for this country to pattern its National defense after, was severely criticized by Philip Schaefer, of Chicago, President of the Machinists' Union, in his testimony before the Senate Military Affairs Committee today. Schaefer, now a naturalized American citizen, was born in Switzerland, and trained under the Swiss system. He appeared before the committee under the auspices of the American Union Against Militarism, and charged the Swiss system is no real defense to Switzerland, and that in its operation it is undemocratic and subject to military abuse.

"I am an American citizen now, but when I was in Switzerland I took the training," Schaefer told the committee. "I was just a private, but I was a good one. I have a silver plate given me for marksmanship and star for judging distance. When I say the Swiss system is detested by the working men, and especially the trade unions in Switzerland, I know what I am talking about.

"No military system is democratic. The Swiss is no exception to that rule. It is said that anyone can rise to be an officer. So he can—if he has the price. But he can't otherwise. He can't join the cavalry unless he has means enough to buy and take care of a horse. The cavalry is composed of men of the middle class entirely.

"I am a machinist by trade. Before I came to this country I worked in the Arbenz Automobile works near Zurich. The machinists organized and struck for higher wages. Mr. Arbenz was captain in the Swiss infantry. He sent for the 70th and 71st companies of the Eighty-fourth regiment—an infantry regiment made up wholly of country boys who didn't know anything about unions or strikes—and ordered them to smash the strike. Smash it they did. I knew one of the fellows there. He was a lieutenant. I had known him in school. I saw him turn his back on me when three of the soldiers seized me and began to club me. That taught me where the power lay in the Swiss system.

"Some folks think that the Swiss system treats everybody alike. Well, it doesn't. The people who get the best of every situation get the best of that. If you have influence enough you can easily be exempted. You go to the commandant and tell him you are going to 'leave the country.' Then you disappear for a little while. Or you get a medical certificate. But if you are a poor man, you don't get off.

"The best paid positions in Switzerland today go to the men who have permanent exemptions, either through influence or disability, from the interruptions of military training. Employers don't want in responsible positions employees who have to trot off to muster every so often. I want to put in the record, Mr. Chairman, these advertisements from a single issue of

## EXPORT FROM N.Y. PORT ON INCREASE

Domestic and Foreign Jumps Over a Billion In 1916 Over Previous Year.

(By Associated Press.) New York, Jan. 19.—Exports, domestic and foreign, from the port for 1916, were \$2,794,295,892; and for 1915, \$1,789,398,375, according to a foreign commerce statement issued at the custom house today. Total merchandise imports for the year are given as \$1,253,232,936, as compared with \$955,639,644 for 1915. Total merchandise imports for December, 1916, amounted to \$102,935,533, as compared with \$94,197,777 for the same period in 1915. Total exports, domestic and foreign, for December, are given as \$228,173,541, as against \$191,268,097 for December, 1915.

## FIRED ON FIFTY TIMES, ESCAPES

British Steamer Puts to Port With Dozen Holes in Side Caused by "Sub" Shots.

(By Associated Press.) Portland, Me., Jan. 19.—Officers of the British steamer Palm Branch which arrived here yesterday from Cardiff via New York reported today that a submarine fired fifty shots at the vessel while in the English channel early in November.

Ten or twelve shots took effect they said, one passing entirely through the ship above the water line. The steamer escaped by suddenly changing her course. A boy was struck and slightly injured.

The Palm Branch returned to Cardiff for repairs and the officers said they learned that the submarine later was captured or sunk.

## FINAL DECISION ON CUBAN ELECTION MADE.

(By Associated Press.) Havana, Jan. 19.—The Supreme Court last night in the last of a series of appeals from the decisions of the Central Election Board in the November presidential contest placed Camaguey province in the Liberal list.

The Liberals now have Havana and Camaguey provinces and the Conservatives have Pinar Del Rio and Matanzas while re-elections must be held in Santa Clara, and Oriente provinces.

The final result hinges on Santa Clara province as neither side can win without it even adding Oriente to those they now control. The re-elections are to be held in six precincts of Santa Clara and while returns gave the Liberals a majority in the province, the Conservatives are confident of overcoming their lead.

The situation apparently is just where it was on November 2, the day after election.

## AMERICANS TAKEN FROM ENGLISHMAN BY THE GERMANS

## CAPITAL PENALTY MEASURE AIED IN THE SENATE

All Bills to Abolish Such Punishment Except in Assault Cases.

**YET MORE SCHOOL BOARD LEGISLATION.**

Five Bills Presented Today—Adjourns in Honor of Lee. Big Tribute to Admiral Dewey.

(Special to The Dispatch.) Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 19.—Senator Allen's bill abolishing capital punishment, except in criminal assault cases, where more than one witness testifies against the defendant, was the chief legislative measure offered today.

Five bills providing for the election of county superintendents and school boards were introduced, four coming from Republican counties. The Republicans are unwilling to compromise on the Statewide bill offered by Page, nor do they agree on the election of county boards alone. They insist upon the entire change in their own counties.

Both Houses worked short hours today and adjourned in honor of General Lee.

The House passed resolutions eulogizing Admiral Dewey and asking the North Carolina delegation in Congress to attend his funeral Saturday as representing the State.

**House—Thursday.** The House was opened at 11 o'clock with prayer by Rev. S. M. Smith, of Norfolk, Va. A large number of bills came from committees, with unfavorable reports that sent them to the "table." New bills were introduced as follows:

Matthews, of Bertie—Validate certain papers in Bertie county.

Mathews—Provide for the exemption of \$300 worth of farm supplies from taxation.

Ward—Repeal a 1913 act relative to peddlers' license in Sampson.

Kiser—Provide for the election of the county board of education in Stokes county by vote of the people.

Dalton—Repeal act authorizing High Point to use negotiable bonds for water and other improvements; amend the Revisal relative to the age of consent; amend act of 1895 as to age of moral responsibility.

Beasley and Price—Increase the number of members of the Union county board of education and provide for their election by the people.

Beasley—Amend the constitution so as to exempt from taxation notes and mortgages incurred in purchase of homes.

Representative Love arose to a "personal privilege" on the ground that Senator Jones had been quoted in the Raleigh morning paper as having declared that he (Representative Love) had tried to do indirectly what he had promised his people at home that he would not do. He declared that he had made no promise and that his conduct had been in entire accord with what he had said all along that he would do.

The following bills passed final readings:

Dog tax for Rowan; omnibus justice of the peace bill; regulate licenses of embalmers and raise the standard; regulate publication of county statements in Henderson county; incorporate Pleasant Hill Baptist church, Macon county; substitute for bill authorizing the payment of witnesses by check. Representative Clark's bill as to usury, providing that the penalty may go to the person whose loss is protected by the mortgage, was taken up and the preamble stricken out as superfluous, and the amended bill passed.

The House adjourned to 10 o'clock Friday morning.

**Senate—Thursday.** The Senate was convened with prayer, by Rev. M. A. Barber, of Christ Episcopal church. New bills and resolutions as follows:

Tucker—Amend Revisal 2081, 1905, as to marriage ceremonies.

Jones—Amend Chapter 82, Public Laws of 1915, relative to the pay of railroad employees.

Cramer—Provide that the Governor (Continued on Page Two.)

Two Hundred and Thirty-Seven of St. Theodore's Men Land at Pernambuco

**DECLARE TEN SHIPS TAKEN IN ONE DAY.**

Lloyds Announces Sinking of Two More Ships Today, British and Norwegian Vessels—Raider Has Disappeared.

**TWO MORE SUNK.**

(By Associated Press.) London, Jan. 19.—Lloyds reports the sinking of the Danish steamship, Dagmar, and the belief that the Norwegian steamship, Bergenhaus, has also been sent to the bottom.

The Bergenhaus, 3,306 tons gross, was last reported at Gibraltar on December 21, on her way for Baltimore.

Washington, Jan. 19.—Nine Americans were among the crew of the British ship, St. Theodore, taken by the German raider, and landed with other survivors at Pernambuco on the Japanese ship, Hudson Maru. Consul Stewart today reported they were safe and so far as reported no other Americans were on the ships.

The State Department today made public the cables from Consul dated, January 18, and received this morning:

"Hudson Maru brought 237 of St. Theodore crew. List shows, Americans: Ben Stevens, Royal Gregory, Frank Magee, David Johnson Johnson, E. Judy, all colored, and Fred Smith, Harry Plot, Guy Vandoren, Minnie Shows, Charlie Jones. No Americans on other vessels named. All nine are here safe.

"Survivors state that Yarrowdale, Georgic, Mount Temple, Voltaire, Snowdon, Renge, King George, one English schooner and one Norwegian were captured to December 12, when prize crew and 440 were placed on Yarrowdale and not heard from since."

Another dispatch from Mr. Stewart, dated January 16, and received here January 17, says:

Crews of St. Theodore, Dramatist, Radnorshire, Minich, Netherby Hall, Mantas and Asnières arrived today. Several Americans. Reported no lives lost."

**Raider Disappears.** Rio Janeiro, Jan. 19.—Except for the accounts brought to Pernambuco by survivors of vessels which had been sunk, no authentic information has been received here regarding the unidentified German raider which has been roving the South Atlantic for more than a month. Since she parted company with the Hudson Maru a week ago the raider has dropped out of sight and so far as can be ascertained is still at large. Great anxiety is felt for the safety of various vessels in waters which are regarded as in the danger zone and various reports of additional sinkings are current, but there is no indication that these stories have any substantial basis.

**Search for Raider.** New York, Jan. 19.—Notwithstanding the known activity of British warships, eleven of which are hurrying from many directions into South Atlantic waters in search of the German commerce destroyer, which sank the Voltaire, Georgic and other Entente vessels, increased apprehension was felt in marine circles today owing to unbroken credence which the shipping world in general has placed on overnight reports that the black raider, believed to be the famous Moeve, is not operating unassisted.

According to reports this fugitive raider carried several sets of armament and has furnished guns to at least two of her captive ships, the St. Theodore and the Yarrowdale, British. The Yarrowdale, British, is reported to have arrived at the Cape Verde Islands with the crews of eight of the ships which were sunk. Her early departure on a raiding mission would cause no surprise among shippers.

Reports as yet unconfirmed place the present whereabouts of the Moeve a considerable distance north of the Ireland-to-Brazil sea lanes, where havoc was accomplished. Meanwhile the Entente war vessels, aside from hunting down an active raiding squadron, are keeping a close watch over several merchant vessels suspected of supplying the Moeve, and her allies with food and of assisting them in other ways.

## 2ND CAVALRY TROOPS TO ESCORT PRESIDENT.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, Jan. 19.—President Wilson has decided to use the Second Cavalry troops at Fort Myer, Va., as his personal escort at the inaugural ceremonies.

The announcement today ends a competition nationwide between volunteer military organizations and National Guard troops, which had been striving for the honor.