

WEATHER FORECAST. North Carolina probably local rain tonight. South Carolina probably rain tonight and somewhat lower temperature.

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

FINAL EDITION

FULL LEASED WIRE SERVICE

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 24.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

GERMANS SUCCEED IN PRESSING RUSS BACK IN THE RIGA

Driven Back and a Half Swamp. OPS MAKE SUCCESSFUL RAIDS

Attacks Are of Chilly, Onomme, By the

Paris, Jan. 24.—French troops made several successful raids last night near Chilly, south of the Somme.

Yesterday German brought down his two German aeroplanes which fell in flames near Maurepas, in the Verdun region.

Fighting Renewed. Renewed fighting has broken out in the Riga region on the Russian front.

Withdrawal of Teutonic forces in a region along the Danube, north of Tulcha is announced in today's army headquarters statement, which reads:

Entente Planes Are Brought Down. Germans Hit Aviators Who Take Advantage of Clear Weather.

Stimulate Trade with Far East. Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 24.—The American Honorary Commerce Commission, composed of business men of the United States designated by the Southern Commercial Congress, is scheduled to sail from here tomorrow.

Japan Opponents Take First Jap At Terauchi Men

Tokyo, Jan. 24.—The majority groups in Parliament opened their campaign against the Terauchi administration today by introducing in the House of Peers a resolution of lack of confidence.

KAISER AND KING'S DESTROYER CLASH

Stories of Battles in North Sea Come from Holland—Conflicting.

London, Jan. 24.—Special dispatches from Holland give stories of the battles between German and British destroyers in the North Sea, but the details which on some points are conflicting, are mostly and avowedly derived from hearsay and not substantiated.

It seems, however, certain that the main engagement began about 2 o'clock in the morning and lasted until about 7 o'clock. It was fought in intense darkness while the severity of the cold can be judged from the fact that eight corpses on the V-69, the German flagship, were so frozen to the deck when the boat arrived at Ymuiden that they had been hewn free with axes.

Practically all the details of actual damage to the ships refer to the V-69, which, it is stated, was rammed by the British ship after being severely battered.

It is confirmed that Commander Boehm, on the V-9, is alive and, according to one report, uninjured. It is stated that he superintended the removal of the crew of the destroyer as an examination of the ship proved the impossibility of repairing her within 24 hours.

STATE WATERWAYS TO BE IMPROVED

All Items of Rivers and Harbors Bill Is Passed By House.

Washington, Jan. 24.—All the items in the Rivers and Harbors Bill making appropriations for improvement of North Carolina waterways have been passed by committee of the whole House, just as introduced by the committee and will undoubtedly go to the Senate unchanged.

NEWS REPRESENTATIVE KICKS ON RESTRICTION

Washington, Jan. 24.—Frank P. Glass, of Birmingham, vice-president of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association, today voiced his objections to restrictions upon newspaper publishers in the Owen Corrupt Practices bill, before a Senate subcommittee.

He said he hoped to have the bill considered by the association at its meeting next Friday in Chicago, and resolutions adopted outlining the publishers' views.

SENATOR CUMMINGS PLEADS FOR TIME TO CONSIDER PLAN

"Right or Wrong," He Says, "the Senate Should Thoroughly Consider Issue."

SAYS WILSON'S PEACE TALK VERY IMPORTANT President's Reason for Confering With Senate Explained, "Council Associated With Me."

Washington, Jan. 24.—Opening debate on his resolution for a week's discussion in the Senate of President Wilson's peace address, Senator Cummings said the President's suggestions were the most important ever made by a chief executive of the United States and, right or wrong, the Senate owed it to the country to set aside time for a full discussion of the issues involved.

"It will be observed that the resolution does not invite nor even properly permit a discussion at this time of the soundness or unsoundness of the purposes announced in the President's address," said Senator Cummings. "I will do all I can do to hold the debate to the point of issue. What is it? It is this: Ought the Senate on some day in the near future do the country the justice of informing the people and advising the President of our views concerning a policy of the most vital importance, to which he has told us he is about to commit his government?"

"For the proper discussion of the resolution, it matters not whether the President is right or wrong. In either case his communication is the most important ever made by a chief executive of the United States. He so regards it. The whole country so looks upon it, and foreign nations so accept it. He has come to the Senate frankly and boldly and I assume, with all sincerity, saying that he owed it to us to disclose to us the purpose in his mind. Why did he owe it to us to disclose without reserve the thought and purposes in his mind?"

Senator Cummings said the President himself had answered that question when he referred to the Senate as "Council associated with me," in international affairs.

FIVE WAR DOGS SIGHTED.

New York, Jan. 24.—Five war vessels running without lights and believed to have been British and French cruisers, were sighted 30 miles off the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay Monday night by officers of the American steamship, Moremac, which arrived here from Cuba. Captain Beveridge said he first saw cruisers when he nearly ran one of them down. She had four funnels. Another vessel some distance away promptly flooded him with a searchlight and shortly after three more warships of similar type were seen.

BRITISH VESSEL SUNK BY TEUTONS

While One Destroyer Rests On Bottom Another Is Sinking.

Berlin, Jan. 24 (Via London).—One British destroyer was sunk and another was observed to be in a sinking condition in the North Sea naval engagement, the admiralty announces. One German torpedo boat put in at Ymuiden in a damaged condition. The others returned with slight damage.

THREE STEAMERS SENT TO BOTTOM

Besides Two Dutch and One English Craft, Fishing Boat Is Also Sunk.

INSURGENTS WIN FIRST SKIRMISH IN THE FIGHT

Looks Like State Senate Going to Vote for Election of School Boards.

STANDPATTERS HAD TO TAKE WATER CAUCUS SCHEDULED FOR TONIGHT HAS BEEN POSTPONED—THE HOUSE FEARS WOMAN SOCIAL REFORMER.

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 24.—The standpatters in education surrendered to the insurgents today, when they called off the caucus for Wednesday night and presented, through Senator Turner, the commission bill now favored by State Superintendent Joyner, naming a central body to elect county school boards, who, in turn, will elect county superintendents.

The Senate took the measure well into the afternoon and, after long discussion as to deferring it, voted by 23 to 22 to postpone action until Wednesday of next week. That looks much like a show down, and the defect of that measure as a substitute for the present system, it means also the election of county boards.

It was announced by leaders in the opposition that they would substitute a constitutional convention next year to bring about the same end. The House reported favorably the bill modifying the capital punishment law, by which trial juries may sentence prisoners convicted to life imprisonment or to the electric chair in the court's discretion. The measure applies to all capital felonies.

Miss Kate Barnard, prison reformer and for two terms State commissioner of charities in Oklahoma, addressed a crowded house on prison reforms today, the Senate having declined to invite her or to sit jointly with the House. She urged many measures for better prison conditions; among them, more power to the Governor to keep his hand upon prison control.

WHO WILL WIN THE AUTOMOBILES?

Question Will Not Be Answered Until Judges Will Have Counted Votes and Announced Their Decision.

TODAY'S LEADERS. Blanche Surles . . . 137,537 \* \* \* Mary C. Hewlett . . . 137,435 \* \* \* Annabelle Nurnberger . . . 137,082 \* \* \* Maude Ivey . . . 137,067 \* \* \* Callie Wells . . . 136,850 \* \* \* Mamie Baldwin . . . 136,822 \* \* \* Loree Rodgers . . . 136,235 \* \* \* Iola Ivey . . . 136,093 \* \* \*

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES. All active candidates who do not win one of the prizes will receive a cash award of ten per cent of all money turned in by them during the contest for new subscriptions. An active candidate is one who continues to work up until the close of the contest, and in order to receive a ten per cent award, a contestant must turn in at least one new subscription either Saturday or Monday, the last two days of the contest.

Look at the standing of the candidates today and look at the leaders. All of the active candidates participate in the voting yesterday, with the result that there is a grand shifting of positions. Miss Callie Wells, Willard, deposited 95,500 votes, the largest cast any one day by any candidate. Miss Wells moves into fifth place in the honor roll. Little Loree Rodgers, Wilmington, did something in a voting way, and moves into seventh place in the honor roll.

LEAD INVESTIGATORS POSPONE MEETING NOW INDEFINITELY

ARMOR PLATE MEN WILL VIEW SITES After Trip to Alabama and Georgia, Board To Visit N. C.

Washington, Jan. 24.—Proposed sites for the \$11,000,000 government armor plate factory in Alabama, particularly in the Birmingham district, and at Rome, Ga., will be inspected by the board designated by Secretary Daniels, on a tour which will begin probably next week.

The board's complete itinerary has not been definitely decided upon, but tentative plans indicate it will go first to Alabama and Georgia, returning through the southwest and Kentucky and Tennessee. Later a second tour will be made through North Carolina and Middle Western States.

U.S. TROOPERS READY TO LEAVE

With Camp Equipment Loaded, Men Mark Time Awaiting Formal Order.

Juarez, Mex., Jan. 24.—American troops at field headquarters at Colonia Dublan were marking time last night awaiting the formal order to start for Columbus, N. M., according to official messages received here from Cases Grandes today. All camp equipment was loaded and the men had their kits packed, the message added.

"BETH STEEL" DECLINES AFTER "MELON-CUT."

New York, Jan. 24.—Bethlehem Steel's response to the opening of today's market to yesterday's "melon-cutting" of the directors, this included a 200 per cent dividend, was a decline of 5 points to 425 on a sale of 100 shares. The balance of the list was irregular on moderate dealings, price-changes in most of the active issues being only fractional.

KING'S PAPER SAYS WILSON'S MESSAGE IS VERY IMPORTANT

Guardian Asks If President Feels That Kaiser Is Ready To Give Up.

SURMISES PLAN FOR A RETURN OF TERRITORY There Are Reasons Why Great Britain Should Not Meet With Wilson or Anyone Else, It Is Added.

London, Jan. 24.—The Manchester Guardian in a further long editorial on President Wilson's speech declares that it considers it a state document of the first importance, drawn with the utmost care and demanding a careful and deliberate consideration. In regard to the phrase "peace without victory," the Guardian asks: "Has the President reason to know that Germany feels herself to be at this moment so far beaten as to be prepared to concede all the other terms which, with no less emphasis, he declares to be essential if the United States is to join in guaranteeing the resulting peace?"

The Guardian surmises that the peace which the President had in mind clearly implies the surrender by the Central powers of their territorial conquests and the liberation of subject populations. It considers, however, that some changes on the war map or other compelling influences appear indispensable before the Teutonic Allies will be willing to agree to the "arrangement" the Guardian sees designed for them by the President.

Regarding the freedom of the seas the Guardian considers that as a commercial blockade is a question of definition, limitation and adaptation to changed conditions and new instruments of modern naval warfare there are reasons why Great Britain should not meet and discuss the whole matter with President Wilson, or any other representative of a neutral state.

It believes that the value of a blockade is likely to diminish in proportion as the size and efficiency of submarine merchant men increase and the menace of long distance submarine warfare develops. While it does not think these factors are reasons for surrendering any valuable rights, it regards them as reasons for a willingness to discuss and settle the general question of maritime war, especially including the right to attack and destroy merchant ships as claimed and exercised by the Central powers in the present war.

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE TO HOLD MEETING SOME TIME THIS WEEK TO SET DATE.

N. Y. COTTON EXCHANGE WILL GIVE UP BOOKS

President of Exchange Says Members Will Probably Be Ready With Their Books By Tomorrow or Day After.

New York, Jan. 24.—The House Rules Committee today decided to adjourn its New York hearing on the "leak" investigation for an indefinite period. Members of the committee, who planned to return to Washington today, will hold a meeting in Washington some time later in the week to decide when they shall resume the hearings here.

Announcement of this plan came while the committee still was in session with representatives of the New York Stock Exchange trying to agree on a new request for submission of specific records to the committee. H. G. S. Noble, president of the New York Stock Exchange, told the House Rules Committee this morning that the first responses from members to the request for a record of their transactions in December might be expected by tomorrow or the day after.

"I think they all realize," he said, "that speed is desired, and those who are going to respond will respond as quickly as possible." "I have you any reason to believe that any of the members will assume the responsibility of not complying with the request?" asked Sherman L. Whipple, the committee's counsel. The witness said he knew of none. "You think there is no question but they will give their cordial assistance to the committee?" "Yes."

"If any individual members decline to accede to the request," remarked the attorney, "the task of finishing the matter will remain with the committee." The attorney then resumed his examination of Noble on stock market methods, particularly about "short" sales. Representative Chipfield of Illinois, criticised Whipple's methods of examining Noble. During examination of Noble regarding the retiring of securities from the market, attorney and witness failed to agree on interpretation of a pool. Whipple then asked Noble if he had not had one thing in mind and said another. Chipfield interrupted. "Mr. Chairman," he said, "I don't think the statement of the witness ought to be impugned."

Chipfield, apparently excited, started defiantly at Whipple. The latter, seemingly disturbed, paused for a moment and then addressed the Chairman and the witness. "If I impugned the statement of the witness, I certainly did not intend to," he said. "Do you think I impugned the witness, Mr. Chairman?"

"I want it in the record," Chipfield declared emphatically, "that I object. I want to say that now so that some day I can make a comment which is not to make. As an individual member of the committee, I am going to follow certain lines without regard to counsel or the rest of the committee."

Chairman Henry explained that he did not think Mr. Whipple intended to impugn the statement of the witness. Mr. Whipple said if it was thought he had impugned Mr. Noble he would apologize. "I want to say that I, for one, am impressed with the spirit of co-operation of these gentlemen," was Chipfield's closing comment. Whipple then said that he did not desire to examine the witness further. Most of Noble's direct testimony was in regard to securities withdrawn from the list. He said that stock in which there is little dealing because of its scarcity on the market is usually withdrawn. He also admitted that "short" dealing in narrowly held stocks was dangerous because of the inability of speculators to borrow it. Representative Bennett wanted to know if Bethlehem Steel was not an example of a narrowly held stock of the kind which was dangerous for out of town speculators to deal in because of the difficulty in always making prompt deliveries. Noble said he did not think Bethlehem Steel a good example because there was always plenty of the stock in circulation. Representative Chipfield also wanted to know if stocks were ever held abroad to escape taxation. "Not to my knowledge," replied Noble.

By devoting their entire time to gathering the information the committee desires, Streit said the brokers' clerks could furnish it in two or three days. He did not think that experts unfamiliar with the books could make much speed. Streit produced copies of a clearing house sheet showing the transaction of an unnamed firm December 13, one of the days of the period during the "leak" is alleged to have occurred. The sheet showed a preponderance of Steel showing net sales of 15,600. (Continued on Page Eight.)

War Summary

Apparently the Bulgarians were not able to hold the ground north of the southern estuary of the Danube, north of Tulcha, in Dobrudja, occupation of which was announced in yesterday's German report. Today's statement apparently indicated withdrawal of the Bulgarians to their former position south of the estuary.

This is the only important movement that has occurred in the Rumanian campaign. Extreme cold weather is interfering with operations in the Moldavian mountain region and there have been only skirmishes and artillery engagements along that front. Attention again is turned to the Riga region on the northern end of the Russian front, where a renewal of the fighting is reported by Berlin. This was forecast by yesterday's announcement of the resumption of intense artillery fire in that region. The Berlin account of the progress of the fighting simply declares that it took a course favorable to the Germans.

On the Franco-Belgian front the pronounced activity of raiding detachments is being continued. The French report mentions successful raids near Chilly, south of the Somme, and patrol operations in the Woerre district. Berlin reports numerous air engagements in which the entente lost six airplanes. Three German machines were brought down on the entrenched front, Paris announces. The German admiralty's report today of the torpedo craft engagement in the North Sea declares only one of the German craft, a torpedo boat, which put in in distress at Ymuiden, Holland, was more than slightly damaged. The sinking of one British destroyer is reported, while a second British boat of this type was observed in a sinking condition after the engagement. The British admiralty yesterday reported the sinking of a German destroyer in an encounter on Monday night and the torpedoing of a British destroyer, with the loss of 45 men.

(Continued on Page Seven.)