

PROMPT ACTION TAKEN AGAINST CHANGING SHIP

Strong Telegram Sent to Senator Simmons Asking His Help in Matter

COMMITTEE FEELING CONFIDENT OF AID

Hearing Before Shipping Board Asked With Regard to Proposed Action of the Clyde Line

The first step in the effort towards making certain the continuance of the Clyde line steamship service in the port was taken yesterday afternoon at a meeting of the special committee of the Chamber of Commerce when a telegram was formulated and transmitted to Senator F. M. Simmons, asking that he use his influence in behalf of this city and section.

Present at the committee meeting were Messrs. J. G. McCormick, Martin W. Washburn, H. C. McQueen, W. H. Stover, Giovanni Colucci and F. A. Thompson. The matter was thoroughly discussed, and the conclusion reached that the only chance for Wilmington to retain the present service through action by the United States Shipping Board, which now has control of all shipping, both home-ward and coastwise.

The Clyde line, through its representative here at the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce on Friday afternoon, stated definitely that only one more trip would be made by the steamer Chickadee after the present voyage south from New York, expected to arrive about every 30 days for northbound cargoes. The committee, however, deemed it useless to endeavor to take the matter up with the officials of the line for the purpose of attempting to get a re-consideration.

The Rotary Club of the city is joining heartily with the Chamber of Commerce in the effort to secure a maintenance of the present service and the message sent yesterday afternoon to Senator Simmons was signed by Mr. Marcus W. Jacoby, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. Roger Moore, president of the Rotary Club. The message is as follows:

"Hon. F. M. Simmons, Senate Chamber, Washington, D. C.

"The Clyde Line threatens withdrawal of its steamship service New York and Wilmington, Chamber of Commerce will meet Friday afternoon at 2 p. m. and will pass resolutions against discontinuance and showing important necessity of its maintenance. Resolutions furnished you by mail. City of Wilmington and North Carolina are depending upon you to have service retained. Please spare no effort to do so. If your investigation shows it necessary to present matter in person to Shipping Board, advise, and will have large delegation present for that purpose. This service has been maintained for forty years and is now only steamship service to this port. Large quantities of freight being now for shipment by this line and also in New York. Owing to railroad embargoes discontinuance of this service will completely 'bottle us up'."

"MARCUS W. JACOBY, President Wilmington Chamber of Commerce.

"ROGER MOORE, President Rotary Club.

"While there is no disposition on the part of the business men of the city to dispute the figures of the steamship company which were offered to show that the line as now maintained is not profitable, yet there is a decided feeling that this is brought about largely from other reasons than that there is an absence of cargoes offered for transportation. For one thing, it was stated that it was the southbound voyages of the steamer that were showing a deficit and that northbound voyages showed a reasonable profit. To offset this it

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FEW APPEALS ARE BEING MADE FROM THE LOCAL BOARD

Work of 'Classifying' Registrants is Being Rapidly Pushed Forward

COAST LINE CLERKS GO IN FIRST CLASS

Next Call For Men to Enter Training Camps Will Make Heavy Draft Upon the General Offices

The work of classification of registrants under the selective service act now being speedily carried forward by both the city and the county exemption boards is characterized by the exceedingly small number of appeals being entered from the decisions reached by the boards. If the same thing holds true in other counties of the eastern half of North Carolina, the District Exemption Board, at Goldsboro, will have very little work to do when the local boards complete the work of classification.

Returns to the city boards have been coming in very fast for the past several days, and the board is running mighty close behind the number of questionnaires mailed out in its work of classification. The papers are being returned very promptly, and aside from the trouble caused by quite a number being improperly answered, which necessitates new papers having to be filled out, the board has experienced little cause for delay. In fact, the work has been going on with remarkable smoothness.

To date practically complete returns have been made by the first one thousand men to receive their papers. Of course, some of these are still out, some have been returned as undeliverable on account of defective addresses, and quite a number have been returned who are far beyond the 1,000 number, but to say that complete returns have been received from the first thousand, or one-third of the whole number of registrants, is approximately correct. From this number, all of whom have been classified in accordance with the information supplied through the answers in the questionnaires only 20 have appealed from the decision of the city local board with regard to the correct classification.

All those who have asked for deferred classification by reason of agricultural or industrial reasons, and to whom such deferred classification has been granted, are automatically expected to be the representatives of the government for review by the district board. In nearly all such cases, however, the chances are that the district board will not disturb the classification made by the local board, the appeal being made in order that by review a close check may be kept on the work of all the local boards.

Class one, A, is the classification that is being given a majority of the clerks in the general offices of the Atlantic Coast Line railroad here, and when the call for men comes about the first of March it looks like serious inroads will be made into the ranks of the young men employed there. A majority of the clerks are unmarried, and the claims for deferred classification were made on account of being engaged in an industrial enterprise, necessary for the winning of the war, have been set aside to a large extent, by the local board.

A number of the men found in an embarrassing position when they reached this part of their questionnaires, and the officials of the railroad were in a position where little help could be extended to any of the men who desired deferred classification by reason of their employment.

The clerks who were on strike for all of November could hardly state that their services were necessary to the carrying on of an enterprise necessary to the winning of the war, while at the same time admitting, when they answered another question, that they had lost that much time from a "necessary" occupation. During the duration of the strike the officials of the road stated, and reiterated, that the road was able to do without the services of the men on strike, and that

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BENEFIT CONCERT LOCAL RED CROSS WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Talented Artist Will Assist Local Singers in Rendering Program

OLD FOLK SONGS WILL BE FEATURE

List of Singers and Full Program to Be Given by the Treble Clef Club is Announced

The Treble Clef Club concert on next Wednesday evening, January 2, promises to be one of the most attractive musical events of the season. It will be given for the benefit of the Red Cross in the Hemenway school auditorium at 8:30 o'clock. A number of Wilmington's most representative women will act as patronesses, and be present at the concert in a body. The ushers will be the younger society girls, dressed in the attractive Red Cross uniform. The stage will be decorated with flags of the allied nations, as well as with ferns and palms, and the whole setting will be one of patriotism and beauty.

This will be the second concert of the Treble Clef Club, which was organized last winter, by Miss Anna Graham Harris. The concert given last spring by this women's choral club was so thoroughly enjoyed by all who heard it, that their enthusiasm is the best advertisement for the performance to be given next Wednesday night.

The following list of prominent local singers will testify to the quality of the rendition of the program.

- Sopranos: Mrs. George S. Roylan, Mrs. E. K. Bryan, Mrs. A. Bascom Croom, Miss Katie Ford, Mrs. Charles F. Green, Miss Florence Haven, Mrs. M. H. Longfellow, Miss Margaret Nash, Mrs. Henry C. Riley, Mrs. Wm. G. Robertson, Mrs. Wm. O. S. Sutherland, Mrs. A. Murray Thompson, Miss Katherine Vollers, Miss Catherine Williams.
- Contraltos: Miss Margaret Corbett, Miss Anna Cavanaugh, Mrs. Robert C. Merritt, Mrs. F. A. Muse, Miss Julia Post, Mrs. Julian K. Taylor, Miss Elizabeth Wilcox.
- Accompanist: Mrs. H. E. O'Keefe. The club will be assisted by Mrs. Meares Harris, violinist, and Mr. William G. Robertson, who will play the accompaniments for Miss Augustine Haughton, of Philadelphia, the soloist for the occasion.

- Miss Haughton adds to a voice of unusual beauty, a personality of great charm and magnetism, and her selections will give her ample opportunity to portray her art in all its simplicity and beauty.
- The program follows:
 - (a) By the Sea—Neapolitan Air.
 - (b) Sleep, Noble Child (Old Christmas Carol)—Cherubini.
 - (c) The Treble Clef.
 - (d) Alla Trinita Beata—Old Italian.
 - (e) 15th Century.
 - (f) Sur le Pont d'Avignon—French.
 - (g) Le Coeur de Mamie—Jacques Darreroze.

- Miss Haughton, French.
 - (a) La Marseillaise—Rouget de l'Isle.
 - (b) My Little Heart—Old French Chanson.
 - (c) The Swan—C. Saint-Saens.
 - (d) Violin Obligato—Mrs. Meares Harris.
- The Treble Clef.
 - (a) The Lark Now Leaves his watery Nest—Sir William Davenant.
 - (b) Have You Seen But the White Lillie Grew—17th Century.
 - (c) I've Been Roaming—Horn.
 - (d) Leezie Lindsay—Old Scotch.
- Miss Haughton, English.
 - (a) The Skylark—King Hall.
 - (b) The Lass With the Delicate Air—Dr. Thos. A. Arne.
- Soprano Solo—Miss Haughton.
 - (a) Indian Lullaby—Thurlow Lieurance.
 - (b) Chinese Mother Goose Rhymes—Bainbridge Crist.
 - (c) "The Mouse" and "Mother is Sleeping."
 - (d) No More—George Henschel.
 - (e) Cuddle Doon—Sidney Homer.
- Miss Haughton, American.
 - (a) Ashes of Roses—Huntingdon Woodman.
 - (b) Carmen—H. Lane Wilson.

HEAVY SNOW.

City Gets Covering of White Accompanied by Small-Sized Blizzard. Wilmington experienced the first heavy snowfall of the winter yesterday afternoon and last night, the snow being accompanied by high winds and extreme cold. The snow began in the mid-afternoon and continued fitfully well into the night, at midnight the streets being well covered with about an inch with many deeper drifts where the wind had piled it up. The city escaped the extreme low temperatures which afflicted many sections of the country, but it was cold enough to suit all those who delight in real wintry weather. The high wind which accompanied the snow made it particularly disagreeable out of doors, and drove the usual Saturday night crowds off the streets at an early hour. The weather man says that even colder weather may be expected today, the chances being that the thermometer will drop to somewhere around 12 degrees.

INCOME TAX MAN COMING HERE TO AID ALL LIABLE

Mr. A. M. McLean Expected to Arrive in the City Next Wednesday

WILL HAVE OFFICES IN THE POSTOFFICE

Most Folks Are Now Liable for Income Taxes to Government and He Will Help in Making Returns

Mr. A. M. McLean will arrive on Wednesday for a stay of nearly three weeks in Wilmington for the purpose of assisting the citizens of this city, and the surrounding territory, in making the proper returns to the government for the purpose of listing their income taxes. Mr. McLean has been with this department for the past four years, and is an expert in this line. He is a North Carolinian, his home being at Lillington, and he already has a number of friends in the city. He is assisted here by Collector of Internal Revenue J. W. Bailey for the purpose of aiding in this work with respect to the people, and his services will doubtless be very much in demand. Mr. McLean will have an office in the Federal Building, and will be here from January 2 through January 19.

The filing of an income tax return to the government is no easy matter this year. Under the provisions of the war revenue act the incomes subject to taxation have been reduced to the thousand dollar mark for unmarried persons, and the scale is graduated upward from that point. The penalties provided for failure to make proper returns are heavy, and all who feel that they may come within the provisions of the law are urged to call upon Mr. McLean during his stay in the city, and get correct information with regard to the matter.

The matter of making out the income tax returns was dealt with at length in a statement recently issued by Collector Bailey, which carries considerable valuable information. The statement is herewith reprinted in full.

"Obtain your blank return from the collector's office in the custom house the latter part of this month. It will then be necessary to prepare a statement of your income received during the year and enter it on the blank return under respective headings shown on the blank return. Should your income be derived from your salary, it should be entered under this heading. Also you may the owner of a bond, the interest from which should be entered under this heading, as income from all other sources should be entered. The various amounts referred to constitute gross income. The matter of deductions is then taken up and changed

"The differences between the two will be the net income from which the specific exemption is deducted in order to obtain the amount upon which the return is properly filled out in this respect it should be sworn to before an officer with a seal and a return filed in the collector's office before March 1. After the collector's office has verified the returns a notice of the tax due will be forwarded to the taxpayers on or before June 1. The payment of the tax should be made on or before June 15th.

"It should be borne in mind by the taxpayers having a small income that personal expenses are not a proper deduction under the Federal income tax law, such as living expenses, rent, etc. In other words an individual who is married living with his wife, and has no children, receiving a salary of \$2,200 per annum, with no other income, would be entitled to an exemption of \$2,000, with no allowance for household expenses, making the amount taxable \$200 at 2 per cent., or \$4 tax. An extension of time has been granted for the filing of returns for the year 1916 by non-residents, alien individuals and corporations, and American citizens residing abroad, who have not been able to file their returns of income for the period mentioned, and subsequent years may be filed for such periods as may be necessary to and including 90 days after the proclamation of the President of the United States announcing the close of the war with Germany. In all these cases a statement should be attached to the return in order that the commissioner of internal revenue may determine that the filing of the return is due to a reasonable cause and not of wilful neglect.

"Income paid by citizens or residents of the United States is subject to withholding of normal tax at the source only when derived from interest on bonds and mortgages, or deeds of trust, etc., containing a so-called 'tax fee' and 'no deduction' clauses. No amount of income paid to a citizen or resident either domestic or foreign, is subject to withholding of income tax at the same source. In lieu of the withholding of normal tax at the source, heretofore, required from incomes paid to citizens or residents of the United States, there shall hereafter be furnished 'returns of information' on forms for that purpose, which will be furnished in due time. "Normal tax withheld from income paid to citizens or residents of the United States during the year 1917, other than interest on corporate obligations containing a so-called tax free or no deduction clause, may now be released and paid over to the persons entitled to receive the same. In each case where withholding of normal income tax at the source is now required, it shall be at the rate of 2 per cent. only, except that 5 per cent. is to be withheld from all payments of interest on bonds and mortgages or deeds of trust, etc., when paid to foreign corporations having no office

NOTICE

The annual meeting of stockholders in The Wilmington Savings and Trust Company will be held at 10 o'clock A. M., Wednesday, January 9th, at the offices of the Company, No. 110 Princess Street, Wilmington, N. C.
J. L. WILLIAMS, Cashier.

COLORED PASTOR DIES SUDDENLY

Pneumonia Cuts Off in His Prime One of the Leaders of the Race

(By George F. King). Another sudden death of a prominent colored person has cast a gloom over the better element of colored people in this city, and in many sections of the State where the late Rev. A. L. Price, gifted colored diviner, has labored so splendidly. He died at 10 p. m. Friday night at the parsonage of Mt. Zion A. M. E. church, on Fifth street. Although modest, Rev. Price was intensely interested in his religious work and country, and a very striking example of his devotion was that he spent his last public labors assisting the young men of his race in filling their questionnaires at the store of Jerry's, on Seventh street. Last Friday, a week ago, he, Riddick Diew and the writer, served at the above-named place and, despite his indisposition, he came across town to serve at the store, and was stricken the same afternoon with pneumonia, which, about seven days afterward, caused his death.

Rev. Price was born in Raleigh and had served with eminent success at various points in the State. Several years ago he was pastor of Mt. Olive A. M. E. church, this city, and then he was made presiding elder of the New Bern district, which he served for several years. Last month his conference sent him to Mt. Zion A. M. E. church, this city. He was an ideal Christian man, scholar, effective preacher and pastor and a strong factor for good among his people.

He leaves a widow and seven children. His son, Eugene, recently enlisted in the Navy and is now stationed at Annapolis. He will arrive in time to attend the funeral tomorrow at 3 p. m., at Mt. Zion church. All of the presiding elders of the North Carolina conference of his church, and most of the ministers of that conference, with the local colored ministerial union, will be in attendance.

FUNERAL OF MISS CROOM.

Held at Family Burial Ground at Currie on Christmas Day. (Special to The Dispatch). Currie, N. C., Dec. 29.—The funeral of Miss Janie McDuffie Croom, daughter of the late Mary Elizabeth and John Bunyan Croom, who died on Christmas eve, was held at the family burial ground, near the old home, on Christmas Day. Miss Croom was 70 years of age. She was a woman of excellent qualities and her passing will be regretted by many friends. She was a devoted member of Caswell Presbyterian church, and lived a true and simple life. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Western, of Burgaw and many floral tributes attested the esteem in which the deceased lady was held. Pallbearers were, honorary, Messrs. F. B. Orr, Vivie Kelly, A. E. Curl and H. P. Bell; active, Messrs. F. L. Bell, Clyde Moore, W. M. Manalee and William Chadwick. Miss Croom is survived by four sisters and two brothers. The sisters are Mrs. B. F. McLean, Maxton, N. C., and Mrs. L. M. Legwin, Wilmington, N. C.; Mrs. John B. Cobb, Atkinson, N. C., and Mrs. M. F. Croom Currie, Messrs. George F. and W. H. Croom are brothers, living at Currie.

RELIGIOUS PLAY AT NEGRO CHURCH

Children of St. Thomas Catholic Church to Give Performance Today

(By George F. King). One of the most inspiring and interesting plays of the Christmas season that has been staged in this city will be presented today in the basement of St. Thomas' Colored Catholic church, Dock street, at 4 p. m. "There Was No Room In the Inn", is the title of this deeply religious play. It is among the foremost productions for a Christmas play for young performers. There are nine principal and a large number of subordinate characters to take the parts of angels and shepherds. The natal day of the child Christ is vividly portrayed and creates a profound religious fervor. The synopsis evinces keen appreciation of the spirit of the play. The time is the first Christmas eve and the place is Bethlehem. On this occasion Miriam, the youngest child of the Jewish family, begs her mother to shelter Mary and Joseph, but is refused. During the night an angel conducts her to the cave of Bethlehem. In the fourth scene, Miriam is rayed by her blind father being miraculously cured. A dime will be collected to help the religious and educational work this church is doing among the colored people.

NATION'S RAILROADS TO BE OPERATED AS ONE GREAT SYSTEM

(Continued From Page One). Director McAdoo's assistant tonight, is a New York attorney with a record as counsel for the Louisville and Nashville from 1893 to 1901, and for the Santa Fe since 1906.

He is at present chairman of the Santa Fe's executive committee. His office has held since 1908 in addition to his legal duties for this system. Hines is an authority on governmental and railroad problems, especially those connected with governmental regulation of railroads. He was born in Russellville, Ky., February 2, 1870, and was married to Alice Clymer MacFarlan in 1900. He is a member of the leading Washington, D. C., and New York City clubs. Alfred H. Smith, McAdoo's assistant in direct charge of transportation, is president of the New York Central lines. Throughout the day McAdoo looked over his first steps in the great problem before him.

The War Board in furtherance of their plans to aid, ordered the operating committee of vice presidents, stationed at Pittsburgh, Pa., to come to Washington and establish headquarters here.

McAdoo's operating plans as far as they could be reliably forecast tonight follow: Single track lines through the same territory will be operated as one double-track line. For example, the Atlantic Coast Line and the Seaboard Air Line will be pooled, just as they were during the height of the Spanish-American war troop movements. Empty freight cars will go down one road and come back the other loaded. This will be the rule for through freight. Local trains will handle inter-territory traffic along each line as at present.

A somewhat similar system will be followed with passenger traffic. At various times of congestion, two big trunk lines between the same points will be divided with respect to freight and passenger service. One will carry freight almost exclusively between through points; the other mostly passengers.

A drastic cut will be made in inter-urban and local accommodation passenger service. It was just here that private management was forced to admit its failure. The various private controls come not legally and would not willfully jeopardize their corporate interests by sacrificing high freight revenues. But by the government taking control, it guaranteed the line carried empties the line's normal income, and takes from the other line the surplus revenues obtained from the more efficient and exclusive right to move increased freight. The effect on industries along the various railroads, from these contemplated revolutionary changes in shipping conditions is being carefully considered before a final move is made. "We will not use meat axe methods," said a high official to the United Press. That non-essential industries will

FAREWELL SERVICE ST. JOHN'S RECTOR

Rev. R. E. Gribbin Leaves Soon for Special Work Among Soldier Boys

A farewell service will be tendered on Monday evening at St. John's Episcopal church to Rev. R. E. Gribbin, the rector, to whom an indefinite leave of absence has been granted. Rev. Mr. Gribbin will leave shortly after the first of the year for Greenville, S. C., where he will do special duty as a volunteer chaplain for the Episcopal church among the soldiers at Camp Sevier. The services will begin at 8 o'clock, and Bishop Thomas C. Darst will preside. An address will be delivered by Rev. Dr. William H. Milton on the work of the War Commission of the church, of which Dr. Milton is a member, explaining the hopes and plans of the commission for the work to be undertaken among the men in the training camps of the country. Rev. Mr. Gribbin will deliver a farewell address to the parish.

The vestry of St. John's church recently granted a leave of absence to Rev. Mr. Gribbin for the duration of the war, or for a longer period if found necessary, in order that he might take up the work in the camps for which he had been selected by the War Commission. Coming here from Atlanta hardly more than a year ago, Mr. Gribbin has made an exceedingly fine impression upon the people of the city, and has been very successful in the work of St. John's parish. While it is realized that he is answering a very important call of the church, and of the country, keen regret is felt at his leaving the city, and there will probably be a large attendance upon this farewell service in his honor.

MET THE REQUIREMENTS

"A Good-for-Nothing Husband" Presented to Two Satisfied Audiences. "A Good-for-Nothing Husband" was the attraction at the Academy of Music yesterday matinee and night, and despite the young blizzard which was raging, two pretty good sized audiences witnessed and seemingly enjoyed the performance. The show claims no metropolitan prestige, coming merely on its merits as a popular priced attraction of the better class, and as such met the requirements. There were a number of bright spots in the performance, the humor at times being impelling, as was the flights into the realms of pathos. Of course there was no great big presentation of heart-throbs, for if there had been it would not have been a popular priced performance, but there was sufficient interest to hold attention; enough humor to chase away the somnolence produced by the more serious lines. All in all, the show is good for its class and is worthy of patronage.

SLACKER ARRESTED.

(By United Press) Pensacola, Fla., Dec. 29.—Federal officials today arrested 24 of 33 slackers indicted at the last term of the Federal court at Gainesville. The arrests followed the apprehension of five residents a few weeks ago charged with resisting the authority of government war troop movements.

It was admitted, however, that with the almost inevitable increase in war freight tending to offset this increased efficiency, it may be necessary for government control to adopt and extend priority lists and let non-war objects take their chances, admitted by all.

The sweeping pool order with the first appointments in the railroad administration marked the first entering of the government into actual operation of the roads. The readjustments, need for which brought government operation, were at once set in motion. Surveys are being made looking to still further changes in the near future. Action of ordering operation of Chicago territory systems as a single unit, with ordered surveys of conditions at the port of New York indicated that the first step will be to clear away the already existing congestion at the seaboard and open the Middle Western gateways.

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—GET RID OF EXCESS EQUIPMENT YOU MUST OWN if you are using horses, and keep your hauling and deliveries at maximum efficiency with minimum overhead charges.

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