

News Without
Bias
Views Without
Prejudice

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NO CONFIRMATION OF YARREOWDALE NEWS

Report Of Release of Prison- Still Lacks Official Verifi- cation at Washington

ROBERT J. BENDER
(United Press Staff Correspondent)
Washington, Feb. 16—The release of the Yarrowdale prisoners and the revocation of German orders against Americans in the Belgian Relief Work have slightly relaxed the tension here.

CONFIRMATION NOT RECEIVED
The United States may send a note to Germany regarding the Yarrowdale matter, despite the reports that 72 American sailors have been released. Official confirmation of their release had not been received here at noon.

The note is ready to go and contains a detailed statement of the treatment of German sailors here. Therefore it may go even if official confirmation is received. The note would file protest against what the President considers a breach of international law by Germany.

Reports have been received from Ambassador Elkus at Constantinople and though the contents have not been revealed it is understood that conditions are not as bad as had been feared. Negotiations to avert a break with Austria will continue.

FOOD GRAFT IS SERIOUS PROBLEM

By CARL S. ACKERMAN
(United Press Staff Correspondent)
Paris, Feb. 16—Germany is undernourished and her food and economic conditions are constantly growing worse. The graft in food distribution and transportation is daily becoming a more serious matter. Meanwhile Von Hindenburg's plans are going forward and the whole nation is concentrating every effort to strengthen the army. A million women form a vast industrial force taking the place of men who are needed in the army.

American physicians have asked that American families give pay to their employees in food instead of money. Americans who left Berlin with Gerard were deluged with requests for food. The recent cold spell destroyed large stores of provisions. Schools were forced to close because of lack of coal. The police are powerless to stop the graft that goes on because of the influential leaders conducting the graft.

Says Congress Will Adjourn

(By United Press)
Washington, Feb. 16—Congress will adjourn March 5th despite the war clouds, says Claude Kitchin. The appropriation measures and the Webb bill will be finished, he declares, and House leaders back Kitchin in this statement.

Hussars Guard Queen's Palace

(By United Press)
The Hague, Feb. 16—Working men are in the midst of a serious strike.

SLANDER CASE ON FOR TRIAL

**SUIT FOR 15,000 AIMS NEIGHBOR-
HOOD SCANDAL AND PROM-
ISES SENSATIONAL DEVELOP-
MENTS**

One of the most sensational slander suits ever heard of in this county or section is on the civil issue docket of Pasquotank Superior Court and will come on for trial some time this year, probably before the September term.

Miss Hallie Meads, daughter of Rev. Chas. Meads of Weightsville is suing Mr. Cale Parker, a well to do farmer of the same section for the sum of fifteen thousand dollars. The whole Sound Neck Section of the county is wrought up to the highest pitch of feeling over the outcome and there is much bitterness between the partisans of each family.

Skirmishes preliminary to the big fight have already occurred and the advantage so far is clearly with the prosecutrix. On a warrant sworn out by Miss Hallie Meads, Frank Kitchell was brought before the recorder last week, convicted of criminal slander and sentenced to two months on the roads. Kitchell put on no evidence, presumably because he did not wish to show his hand, took an appeal and this case is now scheduled for trial at the March term of superior court, when the defense is expected to put up a fight.

Meantime Kitchell is trying to get the custody of his daughter who since her mother's death six years ago, has made her home with the Meads, her father in the beginning, making no objection to the arrangement. The girl is now about thirteen years old. Following his trial in police court, Kitchell instituted habeas corpus proceedings and appealed to the courts to give him back his child. Judge Danie's after hearing the case, denied the father's petition and the little girl will continue to make her home with her foster parents.

The final outcome of the feud is awaited with the most intense feeling on the part of those concerned and their neighbors, and the case has attracted considerable attention here in so far as it has been heard.

Charles Meads is a Primitive Baptist preacher, a native of the Weightsville section and a member of a family who have been substantial farmer folk for generations. From early manhood he had shepherded his little flock at the Primitive Baptist church near his home and led an irreproachable life. Not dependent on the uncertain income which he received from his flock, he spent his week days at work on his farm and lived in comfortable circumstances.

All went well and the esteem in which he was held was added to with the passing time until his wife and he had reached declining years and their daughter had grown to young womanhood. Then neighborhood gossip began to prate, as time went on tongues wagged more freely and finally two ugly stories were told; one, of an illicit act on the part of the young woman, the other of a flight to a distant city to hide the consequences of her folly and shame. Kitchell has been called to answer for the first report and Mr. Parker for the second.

Frank Kitchell came to Pasquotank County from the north something like fifteen years ago and married in the Weightsville section. Later with his wife and little girl he took up his abode in a little hut not far from the Meads home. When the child, Lina, was about six years old her mother died. It was then that, left often alone, she began to go to the Meads home where she was kindly treated and in time she came to spend all her days there.

When his daughter had grown in to her teens in the Meads house

Hertford Girls Here To-night

Tonight the High School Girls Basket Ball Team will meet the Girls team from Hertford High school. In the last game the local girls defeated the Hertford girls 4 to 3. Lately the Hertford girls defeated the Edenton girls team 8 to 5. This game should be a warmly contested one.

Matinees are Proving Popular

The Red Feather photoplay "The Target," presented in five acts at The New Theatre this afternoon delighted the pleasure seekers at this playhouse and those who see this picture tonight will no doubt be no less pleased.

With matinee every day at two thirty and with the same program every night, The New Theatre is receiving liberal patronage and its management express gratification at the reception their first offerings have been given. In the Hinton Building and in the heart of the business district the New Theatre offers to out of town visitors, particularly in the afternoon, an ideal place for an hour of recreation and pleasure.

Shielding Shadow Shown Tonight

The popular serial now running in The Advance, "The Shielding Shadow," is being presented on the screen at the Akrama and the next installment may be seen tonight. The picture failed to arrive last Friday night and the announcement of its next appearance has been anxiously awaited this week.

Miss Fannie Dawson is visiting her niece, Miss Nannie Banks, who is taking a training course at Sarah Leigh Hospital, Norfolk, Va.

TO OUR PATRONS:

This is to notify you that we have purchased the planing mill business of Kramer Bros. & Company as well as the stock at the Saw Mill. We will continue the business at the same location on Martin street in all of its branches, and will be prepared to serve the public more promptly and better than ever. The trade of the customers of the old company is respectfully solicited.

KRAMER BROS. CO.

and its only bedroom in the loft a fit place for a girl budding into maidenhood, he made arrangements for the child to stay at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Snowden. Mrs. Snowden being his wife's cousin. The little girl missed her foster parents and ran away. Her father invoked the arm of the law and again the child was taken to the Snowden home, this time by the sheriff. Again she fled, like a frightened wild thing, back to her adopted home, reaching it before the sheriff had more than set foot down in his office again. When Kitchell sought again to have the sheriff remove the child, Charles Meads said that under the circumstances he would not surrender her unless compelled to do so by law.

This is the story of a scandal that has been bubbling and seething down in the Sound Neck Section until it has got into the courts. It was not until she and her father—the father's offense being that he stood by his daughter—had been expelled from the church in which he had come to old as pastor, that Miss Hallie Meads turned to the courts and asked for a showdown from those whom she claims have defamed her.

Both sides have employed able attorneys. Mr. Parker and

ALL NAVAL MILITIA ARE NOW TO BE PAID

Re-organized to Conform to Federal Standards Under New Law Service Now More Attractive Than Ever

The Naval Militia of the State has been reorganized by the Adjutant General's Department to make it conform to the requirements of the Federal Laws which prescribe a form of organization and the method of pay for the officers and enlisted men. Under the former organization of the Naval Militia of North Carolina was commanded by a Captain. Under the new plan of organization the Commanding Officer will be a Lieutenant Commander, and Lieut. J. K. Wilson formerly in command of the Fifth Division of Elizabeth City, has been placed in command of the battalion. Lieut. J. C. B. Ehringhaus, former Judge Advocate has been made Executive and Navigator, the position of Judge Advocate having been abolished. The reporter interviewed Mr. Wilson today about the Naval Militia and was told that for the past few weeks there has been unusual activity among the three divisions located in New Bern, Washington and Elizabeth City. In taking examinations, both physical and professional. Under the new law every officer and enlisted man in the Naval Militia is required to undergo physical and mental examinations. The physical examinations are given by a board consisting of Post Assistant Surgeon R. D. Jones of New Bern, Assistant Surgeon C. E. Williams of Elizabeth City and Dr. Raymond Pollock of New Bern. The first two are officers of the Naval Militia, and Dr. Pollock was added from civil life.

The mental or professional examination of officers is conducted by a Board of Officers in the Navy Department in Washington, and various officers of the North Carolina have during the last few months taken examinations prescribed and prepared by this Board of Examiners, and have made a very creditable showing. The mental examination of enlisted men is conducted by the Naval Militia Officers, and board have been appointed in each of the three towns of this State in which the Divisions are located and enlisted men are being examined. These examinations are made necessary by reason of the Provision of the Federal law, which have as their purpose the making of the Naval Militia and the National Guard into an effective force in case of National emergency.

Another interesting feature of the work is that in the Naval Appropriation Act passed last year, provision was made for the organization of a force to be known as the National Naval Volunteers. This force is to be composed entirely of members of the Naval Militia, and any member of the Naval Militia who qualifies on his examination and volunteers, may be enrolled.

THE PAY ROLL

For the first time in the history of this country, the Federal Government is making provision for paying the National Guard and the Naval Militia for duty at their home stations. This makes the service a great deal more attractive than it has ever been before. Under the new law all officers of or above, the grade of Lieutenant will receive five hundred dollars a year. Lieutenants (J. G.) will receive Two Hundred and Forty Dollars. Ensigns Two Hundred Dollars and Warrant Officers One Hundred and Twenty Dollars a year.

the regular service, not to exceed one hundred and twenty dollars a year. The pay in the regular service of grades which are in use in the Naval Militia are the following: Chief Machinist Mate Seventy seven dollars a month. Other Chief Petty Officers, either Sixty-six or fifty-five dollars, depending upon their particular ratings. First Class Petty Officers get Forty four dollars and some of them more than that. Second Class Petty Officers get Thirty eight dollars and fifty cents, and some of them more. Third Class Petty Officers draw thirty three dollars. Officers draw Forty dollars and seventy cents. Firemen, 1st Class draw Thirty eight dollars and fifty cents; Firemen, 2nd. Class draw Thirty three dollars and Fireman 3rd. Class (which is the old rating of caal nth. ltrro Bmyaam aooNg Oc coal passers in the Navy) draw Twenty-four dollars and twenty cents a month; Seamen draw Twenty four dollars and forty cents and Second Class Seamen (the old rating of ordinary seamen now abolished in the Navy) draw Twenty dollars and ninety cents a month.

As members of the Naval Militia get twenty-five per cent of this pay it will be seen that the Naval Militia should be a very attractive service. The rate of pay is considerably higher than that in the army or that in the National Guard. Even men in the lowest rating of second class seamen will draw twenty five per cent of Twenty dollars and ninety cents. That is, they will draw \$5.22 a month. For this they are required to attend forty eight drills a year, which is four a month. This will give them a little over a dollar for each drill they attend, and as a number of men have been performing this service without any pay whatever in the past, the new compensation should be a great incentive in securing recruits, and will doubtless bring a large number of men into the organization. No examination other than the physical is required of men in these lower ratings, and there is ample opportunity and room for promotion when men qualify for higher ratings. Only a certain number of Petty Officers is allowed in each Division, but this number is large enough to give plenty of room for advancement but in addition to this, there are other officers in addition to Petty Officer to which the men in the lower grades may be promoted with a very substantial increase of pay. Of course the rates of pay set out above do not apply in case the Naval Militia is called into actual service, nor when they are on summer cruises. At these times the men get the same pay that men of corresponding ratings get in the regular navy.

The Naval Militia in North Carolina is in excellent shape and is ready for any service that it may be called upon to perform. None of the boys seem anxious to get in to actual service, but none of them have yet tried to run away from it, and all say that they are willing to go if needed. They have been well drilled, trained and instructed and could give excellent account of themselves and justify the attention which the government has given the organization in the preparedness measures which have been taken.