

"MY SON,  
deal with men  
who advertise,  
you will never  
lose by it."  
—Benjamin Franklin.

# The Daily Advance

**WEATHER**

Fair and freezing temperature to-  
night. Thursday fair and cold mod-  
erate northwest winds.

VOL. V.

ELIZABETH CITY, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 24, 1920

NO. 48

## ERZBERGER OFFERS HIS RESIGNATION

**Says Wants Investigation to Proceed Without Prejudice, But Libel Suit Figures in Case**

(By Associated Press)

Berlin, Feb. 25.—Mathias Erzberger last night resigned as Minister of Finance, basing his action upon the desire to have an investigation of his alleged falsified tax returns proceed without prejudice or consideration for his official position.

While the official announcement as signs this as the reason for his retirement, the alleged motive is eclipsed by the character of the evidence which Dr. Karl Helfrich, former vice Chancellor, succeeded in piling up against Erzberger during the last two days of the latter's libel suit against him.

Under-Secretary of State Meesle has been selected to succeed Erzberger.

## PORTO RICANS LOOK TO U. S.

**Living Wage and Developed Industries Need to Cure Conditions There Says American Special Agent**

New York, Feb. 25.—A living wage and development of industries on a large scale is needed to banish the "most intolerable conditions" under which the immense landless population of Porto Rico have labored for centuries, Joseph Marcus, special agent of the United States Employment Service, declares in a report issued by the Department of Labor. The investigator reported that lack of employment for a large part of the people, intermittancy of occupation and small wages have brought about a critical situation on the island.

The Porto Rican laborer looks to the United States with its enlightenment and leadership in humanitarian ideals to rescue him, the Marcus report stated. Both the government and the American Federation of Labor are being appealed to, it was explained.

But before the industries can be expected to enter the Porto Rican field shipping facilities must be increased, with fast steamers in service; a branch of the Federal Reserve Bank must be instituted on the island, and there must be more independent land-owning farmers, according to the report. Then, with a big export business, work may be provided for all at fair wages. Now when a laborer is working he and his family share a breakfast of only black coffee, a luncheon of rice and beans, rice and codfish, or codfish and plantains, and a dinner the same as luncheon, it was stated.

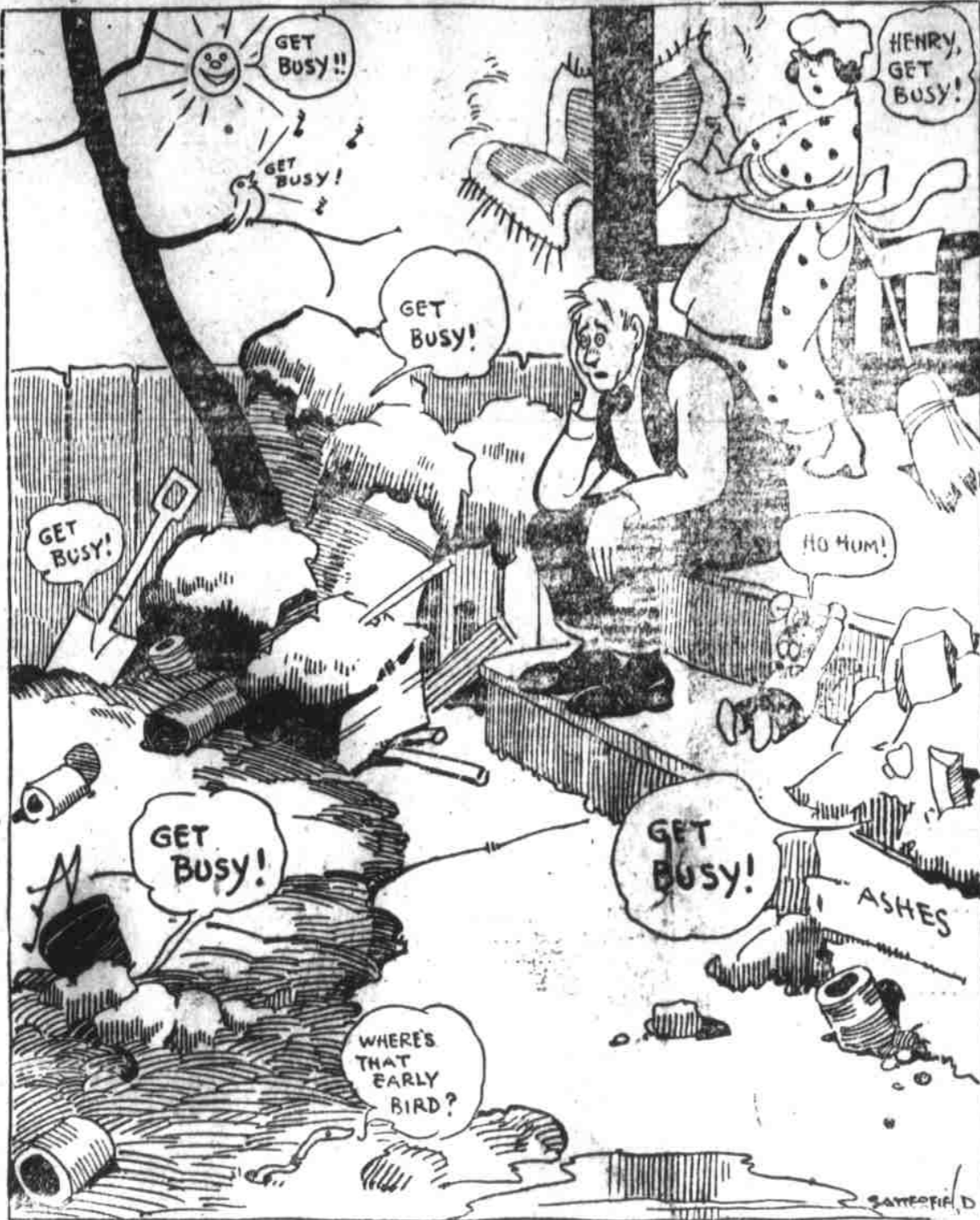
The Porto Rican is beginning to demand better living conditions, Mr. Marcus reported. Strikes organized and supported by the Free Federation of Labor which is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, take place "frequently."

In Aguadilla, one of Porto Rico's principal towns, characterized as the "strike breakers' district" and the "poorest section of the island," instances abound where families eat only once a day and have meat but once in a year, the report said, adding that about thirty percent of the population in the district have tuberculosis. Hookworm and other tropical diseases abound throughout the entire country.

Describing the "jibaro" or mountain dweller and "principal factor" in the labor problem of Porto Rico, since he constitutes nearly eighty per cent of the population, the Marcus report sums up the situation as follows:

"This jibaro is still living under in the same environment under which his ancestors lived one or two hundred years ago. He builds his little shack on land that does not belong to him, and he works, when work is to be had, on the nearest cane, coffee or tobacco plantation. His dress consists of a pair of white trousers, a white shirt and a straw hat. His wife and children are clad as poorly as he is; and none of them wear shoes.

## "THE CALL OF SPRING"



## SAUNDERS SAYS IT'S A MISTAKE

**Editor of Independent Declares He Is Not Committed to Platform of Committee of Forty-Eight**

Editor, The Advance:

The use of the name of the Independent in the article regarding the Committee of Forty-Eight in your issue of Feb. 24 was unauthorized, as was also the name of W. L. Cohoon.

I was recently requested by Wade B. Leonard to assume certain work for the Committee of Forty-Eight in this district. I declined and told him that he probably could interest Mr. Cohoon, since I had been informed that Mr. Cohoon might be interested in the organization of a new political party. I suggested that he communicate with Mr. Cohoon. It appears that instead of acting discreetly upon a friendly suggestion, Mr. Leonard seeks, without authority, to use our names for propaganda purposes.

It is true I became interested in the Committee of Forty-Eight several months ago when its object was the calling of a convention to ascertain the liberal opinion of the country and to definitely establish a liberal program as opposed to Bolshevism, Socialism and radical movements generally with which liberalism was in imminent danger of being confused. I was one of the signers of the call for the St. Louis Convention in December, 1919; but could not find it convenient to attend that convention.

It seems that out of that convention has grown a movement to organize a new political party, but I have not had an opportunity to study the advisability of such action and am not committed to such a move at this time.

W. O. Saunders

## ITALIAN WORKERS SEIZE MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

(By Associated Press)  
London, Feb. 25.—Workers at Pieve Di Soligo, Italy, have seized the municipal building and proclaimed the soviet government, according to a Rome dispatch.

In the fighting between the workers and the troops many persons were wounded.

## MRS. LOUISE BURFOOT DEAD

Mrs. Louise Burfoot, widow of the late M. L. Burfoot died at her home on Burgess street Tuesday afternoon at two o'clock. She became suddenly very ill Tuesday morning and was given medical attention but did not regain consciousness.

Mrs. Burfoot would have been sixty-two years old on Saturday. She is survived by two children, Miss Hilda Burfoot and J. W. Burfoot both of this city.

Mrs. Burfoot has been living in this city eight years, having moved here from Old Trap, Camden County.

The funeral will be conducted from the home at three o'clock Thursday afternoon.

## FUNERAL MAJOR D. GREGORY

The funeral services of Major D. Gregory who died Monday morning at the home of his son, E. C. Gregory on North Road street, were conducted from the home Tuesday afternoon at three-thirty o'clock by Dr. George W. Clarke, pastor of Blackwell Memorial church. Interment was made in Hollywood cemetery.

Mr. Gregory had been in failing health since an attack of influenza last year. He was a native of Camden county but had lived here for thirty years. He was a Confederate veteran.

He is survived by two daughters and four sons. The daughters are Miss Bessie Gregory and Mrs. M. G. Wright, both of this city. The sons are Richard, Howard and Frank Gregory of Norfolk and E. C. Gregory of this city.

## FIVE YEARS IN ARMY

London, Feb. 9.—John Farrington, a seaman who has been in the army for five years, has been fourteen times court-martialled, spent four and a half years under detention, and was never abroad, according to army records. He is now serving three years penal servitude for theft of postal drafts.

## \$25.00 REWARD

**\$25 REWARD FOR THE ARREST AND CONVICTION OF THE PERSON OR PERSONS GUILTY OF TURNING IN FALSE FIRE ALARMS TUESDAY NIGHT, BOX 42 AND SUNDAY NIGHT, BOX 52.**—J. B. Flora, Chief of Fire Department.

## GATE CITY SPENDS MONEY ON STREETS

**Bond Issue For Two Hundred Thousand Dollars Authorized By City Fathers. — Flu About Done For**

Greensboro, Feb. 24.—Greensboro plans to spend two hundred thousand dollars on street improvements, an ordinance for a bond issue of that amount having been passed by the city Commissioners yesterday afternoon by a unanimous vote. The bonds will bear interest at a rate of not in excess of six per cent. The last issue of street improvement bonds sold by the city bore a rate of 5-1-2 per cent.

**Emergency Hospitals Clear**  
For the first time since the beginning of the influenza epidemic both the white emergency hospitals that were opened for the treatment of patients for the disease

patients with the disease are without a patient, the last patient having been discharged Monday afternoon. All of the equipment of the two hospitals will be left intact for a few days so that if there is a recurrence of the epidemic everything will be ready to fight it. The emergency hospital for negroes still has a few patients but it is expected that they will be discharged within the next few days.

**But Few New "Flu" Cases**  
Only two new cases of influenza developed here within the twenty-four hours ending at five o'clock Monday afternoon. The city physician stated yesterday afternoon that with continued improvement he is positive that the ban against public gatherings can be lifted soon. In his weekly mortality report to the surgeon general at Washington, made yesterday he reported only thirteen deaths from influenza and pneumonia for the week ending February 21. This is considered a gratifying low record, considering the large number of cases that have been here.

## ATTENTION LOYAL MOOSE

A special meeting of the Loyal of Moose will be held Friday night, February 27th at seven-thirty o'clock in the New Moose Quarters, Fourth Floor of Hinton Building. Wanted, every member present. It

## BANKRIDGE COLBY OF NEW YORK NAMED TO SUCCEED SEC. LANSING

**Appointment Comes As Surprise, Washington Officials Having Expected Polk to be Choice Of President Wilson**

Washington, Feb. 25.—Bankridge Colby of New York, who was one of the leaders in the Progressive party under Roosevelt, will succeed Robert Lansing as Secretary of State.

## To Investigate Iron County Mixup

**Deputy Commissioner of the Bureau of Internal Revenue To Confer With Michigan Authorities**

(By Associated Press)

Washington, Feb. 25.—Investigation of the prohibition controversy in Iron County, Michigan will be made by the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Commissioner Roper announced today.

The Deputy Commissioner leaves tonight for Grand Rapids and Iron River City to take up with authorities there the controversy which led District Prohibition Commissioner Dairymple at Chicago to declare the county in "open revolt."

## ANNOUNCES DEATH COFNERATE VETERAN

The following announcement is made today by James I. Metts, Major General, Commanding North Carolina Division United Confederate Veterans:

"It is with the deepest sorrow that I have to announce the death of our beloved comrade Brig. R. H. Ricks, which occurred February 19th at 7 N. C. A few years ago he was elected P. M. at his home near Roy Mount, ed Brigadier General of the Third North Carolina Brigade and has been re-elected since. He belonged to the famous Bethel Regiment at the first battle of the war, was one of the six men who destroyed the house in front of the Confederate Line when Henry Wyatt was killed, Wyatt being the first soldier to be killed in the war.

From all accounts he was one of the best soldiers who ever stepped to the tap of the drum; Careful, painstaking, cautious though fearless, with good judgement he was ever at the front. Generous, warmhearted he never permitted anyone to suffer within his reach. He belonged to a battery which did good service especially at Cold Harbor, where he was wounded several times. In his death the Confederate Veterans have sustained an incalculable loss.

## MEXICO SCHOOLS CLOSE

Mexico City, Feb. 25.—Schools and public gatherings here are suspended indefinitely on account of influenza. It is estimated that the number of cases in the city run as high as several hundred thousand.

## TWIN TUNNELS BORED

Pittsburgh, Feb. 25.—Twin Tunnels, each five thousand, seven hundred feet long, for the use of vehicles and pedestrians, are being bored thru the range of hills bordering the southern side of the Monongahela River valley here, in order that the thousands of persons live on the Southern part of Allegheny county and work in Pittsburgh may more easily reach the city.

Work on the tunnels which began a few days ago, will continue for more than two years, engineers estimate, and the cost will be \$4,600,000. It is proposed to have the tunnels connect with a high bridge which will span the Monongahela river and bring the tunnel traffic to the heart of the business district of Pittsburgh. This will cost three million five hundred thousand dollars. Each tube will be made to accommodate two lines of vehicle traffic, and in addition there will be footpaths.

**FOR SALE — TWO HOUSES AND lots.** Water and lights. Good condition. Terms reasonable. Apply to W. S. Overman, 210 Broad st. feb 23 6t pd

Announcement of his selection by the President was made today at the White House.

Colby's selection came as a surprise, most officials assuming that Frank L. Polk, Acting Secretary, would be the President's choice.

The first inkling that the President was to appoint some one outside the official family came when Colby visited the White House early today with Raymond Baker, Director of the Mint.

Colby was taken to see the President and a few minutes later formal announcement of his selection was made.

His nomination is expected to be sent to the Senate in a day or two.

## ASQUITH ELECTED TO PARLIAMENT

(By the Associated Press)  
London, Feb. 25.—Former Premier Asquith was elected to Parliament from the Paisley constituency in a recent election. Announcement of the result was made today.

## REPLY DELIVERED TO ALLIED COUNCIL

London, Feb. 25.—President Wilson's reply to the Allied note on the Adriatic question reached London today and was delivered to the Allied Supreme Council.

## TO REFER APPEALS TO GOVERNMENTS

(By Associated Press)  
Paris, Feb. 25.—The Ambassadorial Council decided today to refer the respective governments appeals of inter-Allied military authorities for any condemned to death.

## MEET THURSDAY NIGHT TO ORGANIZE POULTRY ASS'N.

All who are interested in organizing a poultry association in Pasquotank County are asked to meet in the County Farm Agents office in the Federal Building Thursday night at seven-thirty.

## PRINCE AND PREMIER ARE BOTH WOUNDED

(By Associated Press)  
London, Feb. 25.—Attempt has been made to assassinate Prince Regent Alexander of Serbia and Premier Protitch, according to a Trieste dispatch. The Prince and Premier are both wounded.

## IRISH HOME RULE PRESENTED TODAY

(By Associated Press)  
London, Feb. 25.—The government's bill for Irish Home Rule was presented in the House of Commons today and immediately received its first reading.

## HELD FOR RANSOM

(By the Associated Press)  
Washington, Feb. 25.—Barry Hoggarty, American citizen was kidnaped by Mexicans at Matimi, Durango, and is being held for ransom, according to information at the State Department to-day.

## OFFERED TO MUSEUM

London, Feb. 9.—The last horse-drawn fire engine remaining in the London Fire Brigade has been offered to the South Kensington Science Museum.