

WEATHER
 Rain tonight and Saturday. Warmer tonight. Colder Saturday. Fresh shifting winds.

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Administration Shows First Foreign Interest

Message Sent Ambassador Child Thursday By President Harding And Secretary Hughes Was Along Same Line As The Twelfth Of President Wilson's Fourteen Points

By DAVID LAWRENCE
 (Copyright 1922 by The Advance)
 Washington, Dec. 7.—American foreign policy under the Harding administration has developed its first concrete participation in European affairs in nearly two years.

And it is an interesting coincidence that the announcement should be made on the very day that former Premier Clemenceau of France and former President Wilson should be indulging in reminiscences over the famous fourteen points on which Germany accepted an armistice in the great war.

For the instructions sent Ambassador Richard Washburn Child by President Harding and Secretary Hughes to be read at the gathering of the powers at Lausanne to patch up the Near Eastern war are in conformity with the twelfth of the Wilson fourteen points which read as follows:

"The Dardanelles should be permanently opened as a free passage to the ships and commerce of all nations, under international guarantees."

Ambassador Child not only upheld this policy but specifically promised American aid in guaranteeing the freedom of the straits. He said that "no nation would be readier (than the United States) to uphold the good sense of maintaining a sufficient naval force to act as the police of the free seas, to protect its citizens and their ships wherever they might be, to suppress piracy and other menaces and to act at times for the public good and give relief to the suffering just as the ships of war have recently done in the Near East."

This is the first time since the Wilson administration that any promises of naval help have been offered to European powers in the solution of problems over seas. The rejection of an American mandate in Armenia, the gradual withdrawal of American troops from the Rhine and the general policy of keeping out of European affairs have come to be regarded in some quarters as a fixed determination to remain entirely out of the politics of Europe.

The readiness of the Harding administration to use its influence in the Near Eastern crisis will naturally be viewed as inconsistent by the advocates of strict isolation but the Wilsonian Democrats and those Republicans who favored international co-operation are plainly enthusiastic over the turn of the Harding policy.

Unquestionably the pressure of American churches which have vast interests in the Near East have had a telling effect here. Also it is an open secret that Great Britain has been anxious for American support in the Near East and has succeeded in persuading the American Government that a positive stand by the United States at this time would contribute materially toward the making of peace.

The demand of the United States that the Dardanelles be kept free of fortification goes further than anything that has been said on the subject by the American Government under its preceding administration. It has been suggested by some critics that the United States to some extent inconsistent in arguing against fortifications in the Dardanelles when the Panama Canal is so heavily fortified by its owner, the United States Government. The answer made in official quarters here is that the Panama Canal is an artificial waterway whose usefulness could easily be destroyed for neutral commerce by the acts of a belligerent while the Dardanelles are a natural waterway and could not be blocked by a single explosion or even by the sinking of a great number of ships.

Sixteen Blocks Swept By Fire

President Of Bank Drops Dead And Another Business Man Is Missing

Astoria, Oregon, Dec. 8 (By The Associated Press)—The business district here was laid in ruins by a fire which broke out shortly after two o'clock this morning and despite the efforts of the local fire department and reinforcements from Portland, swept sixteen blocks, causing a loss estimated at between ten and fifteen million dollars.

Morris Staples, president of the Bank of Commerce, dropped dead, and Brennan Van Dusen, business man, is missing.

TODAY'S COTTON MARKET

New York, Dec. 8 (By The Associated Press)—Cotton opened steady at an advance of from four to seven points on higher Liverpool cables, better Manchester trade reports and more optimistic feeling over European affairs, but met considerable selling due to rather larger ginning figures than was expected and January dropped from 24.82 to 24.51 right after call.

New York, Dec. 8 (By The Associated Press)—The market was less active and steady later on renewal of light covering and commission house buying, while there was a more favorable view of the European situation and a steady southern spot market.

WEEKSVILLE HAS BIBLE PICTURES

Proceeds Will Be Given To The Fund For New Bern Relief

The illustrated study of the life of Christ being held in Christ church each Sunday night will be given also on each Monday night at 7:30 in the Episcopal chapel at Weeksville. At this time the offering taken will go toward the New Bern fire sufferers. These same pictures and lecture will be given also in the Episcopal chapel at Camden on each Wednesday night and the offering this time will go toward the same cause.

FIRE AT SPRAY

Spray, N. C., Dec. 8 (By The Associated Press)—A three story building here was gutted by fire last night with about \$75,000 loss.

erican member to the Reparations Commission and the official attendance of American representatives at European conferences constituted a political obstacle to the free expression of American views on many vital questions growing out of the Paris peace conference. Generally alone have been voiced with respect to American co-operation.

Former Premier Clemenceau came to America to persuade the United States to contribute its help toward maintaining the peace of Europe by guaranteeing France against German invasion. The proposal to internationalize the territory on the left bank of the Rhine has again and again been made as one way of preventing French annexation of that territory and consequent friction with Germany. Many suggestions that the United States join international commissions to police waterways and provide buffer states have fallen on deaf ears heretofore.

Ambassador Child's speech based on explicit cable instructions from Washington is being interpreted today as a sequel to the sentiment manifested at such gatherings as the American Bankers Association, namely that whether through the League or the Harding association of nations or through no rigid institution but the normal methods of international intercourse American power and influence should be exerted for the stabilization of Europe. It is a departure of policy which the friends of international co-operation will not hesitate to make the most of in the future.

Four Executed In Mount Joy Prison

Dublin, Dec. 8 (By The Associated Press)—Rory O'Connor and Liam Mellows, with two other Irish rebels, were executed in Mount Joy prison today.

O'Connor and Mellows were taken prisoners after three days siege of the Fourcourts Building in June and their companions, Joseph McKevelly and Richard Barrett were executed as reprisal for the assassination yesterday of Sean Hales, deputy speaker, the official report stated.

Irish Republicans Issue Manifesto

London, Dec. 8 (By The Associated Press)—"Irish Republicans," says a Dublin dispatch to the Evening Standard, "have issued a manifesto describing Timothy Healy, governor general, as a life-long enemy of the nation," and the dispatch adds, "The fight will go on as long as there is a man in Ireland. It is war to the death."

Pastors Endorse New Bern Relief

Collections Will Be Taken In The Churches Sunday For This Fund

The following pastors heartily approve the splendid work being done in the city for the New Bern fire sufferers and would like to announce that on Sunday, December 10th, at both the morning and evening services opportunity will be given the congregations to contribute toward the New Bern fire sufferers fund at all the churches where the following clergymen are pastors: (The Rev. Messrs. Banks, Hall, Hill, Myers, Stack, Templeman, Thayer and Wilson.

ROB MAIL CLERK

St. Joseph, Mo., Dec. 8 (By The Associated Press)—Three unmasked men armed with pistols and shot gun held up two mail clerks at the Union Station here today and escaped in a waiting automobile with a package of registered and five packages of first class mail. There is no estimate of the value of the loot.

Police Are Puzzled About Clara Phillips

Los Angeles, Dec. 8 (By The Associated Press)—Officials are quoted today as admitting that they hardly knew in what direction to look for Clara Phillips, hammer murderer who saw her way to freedom from the county jail Tuesday. So far scores of tips have proved worthless.

PROVO RETURNS WITHOUT NEW BERN ROAD LABOR

According to J. E. Provo, labor superintendent for the Pasquotank Highway Commission, who has just returned from New Bern, there is a new phase to the labor situation there that was a surprise to him when he arrived and met it.

Mr. Provo went to New Bern on the strength of a report that the city of New Bern would pay transportation of all of those of its unemployed as were given work in other localities.

When he arrived, however, he found that things had changed so much since just after the fire that it looked as though his trip had been for nothing.

New Bern authorities are now disposed to discourage instead of to encourage the exodus of labor from that city, as it is believed this labor will all be needed shortly.

Mr. Provo thinks, however, that he has set agencies in motion through friends in New Bern that will result eventually in his obtaining some of the labor he went after.

Patrons are urged to see how he does it tonight.

New Bern Relief Gains Headway

The New Bern relief fund continued to gain headway Friday and prospects at this time seem to indicate that Elizabeth City will make a generous contribution to the fund.

Though the active canvass for subscriptions has not yet been begun a number of voluntary contributions have been reported and the total already is swelling each day to larger proportions.

Gratification that a New Bern Relief Commission had been organized here was expressed Friday by J. H. McWilliams, general agent of the Norfolk Southern, who was here directly from New Bern.

"New Bern is needing every cent that she is getting," said Mr. McWilliams, "and the money being sent there is being expended judiciously and wisely. In the beginning, before the relief work was well organized, there were, of course, some instances of undeserved charity. But the undeserving are now being rapidly weeded out."

"I have heard criticism of New Bern in some quarters for making no effort to induce the surplus labor now on its hands to look elsewhere for employment. But there will be no surplus long. The lumber mill that was burned is to be rebuilt, and the rebuilding is a task that will require considerable labor. Temporary houses are to be built over the devastated area in large numbers, and then gradually these temporary houses will be replaced by permanent structures. All this will require labor. If New Bern now sends all its common labor into other fields, there will come an aftermath to the fire worse than the calamity itself."

Mr. McWilliams also pointed out that the white population of New Bern is hardly in excess of 6,000 and that the task of feeding and clothing the multitude of destitute fire-sufferers is beyond their resources. Among subscriptions already made are the following:

- Junior Order \$ 25
- Red Cross 100
- B. R. O. Eiks 100
- A. B. Houtz 25
- C. E. Kramer 10
- Miss Sallie Stevens 5
- Cash 3
- Mrs. Lucie Outlaw 10

Total \$278

Besides the cash contributions five boxes of clothing have already been forwarded to New Bern.

It is believed that numbers of contributions in addition to the foregoing have been paid in at the banks of the city or have been sent to New Bern direct. It is desired that all contributions sent direct be reported at once to Secretary Job, who is treasurer of the fund.

The total set forth in the foregoing paragraph will be carried forward each day, and new subscriptions added to the list published in this newspaper. In this way every contribution made to Secretary Job will be publicly acknowledged.

Hired Gunman To Kill Her Husband

Detroit, Dec. 8 (By The Associated Press)—Mrs. May Bienn Ford solicited the services of a gunman to kill her wealthy husband, Ney J. Ford, offered the gunman \$20,000 for the job and gave him a photograph of her husband to make sure the right man was slain, according to sworn statements of four detectives whose investigation resulted in the woman's detention today on the charge of attempting to commit murder. Denying the charge, Mrs. Ford declared that she was the victim of a frameup that grew out of domestic difficulties.

NEW PRESIDING ELDER SPEAKS AT NEWBEGUN

Presiding Elder C. B. Culbreth will preach at Newbegun Methodist church Saturday morning at eleven o'clock at the quarterly conference.

Mr. Culbreth will also speak at Newbegun Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, at Union Sunday afternoon at 3 and at Epworth Sunday evening at 7:30.

INTRODUCES A BILL FOR COTTON BUYERS

Washington, Dec. 8 (By The Associated Press)—Representative Stevenson of South Carolina has introduced a bill to enable contract buyers to demand the delivery of cotton grades they desire for manufacture.

Harding Delivers His Message To Congress

Chief Subjects Were Prohibition, Farm Credits, Transportation, Child Labor And Immigration—Co-operation Of State And National Forces For Prohibition Enforcement Urged

Washington, Dec. 8 (By The Associated Press)—President Harding in his annual message to Congress delivered in person today dealt with nearly a score of subjects, the chief among them being prohibition, farm credits, the transportation problem, child labor and immigration.

Brownley Held For Federal Court Here

H. A. Brownley, who left here on the 22nd of November for Allentown, Pennsylvania, to answer a charge of abandonment and non support of wife and child in that city, and who following settlement of the case there without trial, returned to Elizabeth City, was taken before United States Commissioner T. B. Wilson Friday morning on a warrant charging violation of the Mann Act, and held for probable cause under bond of \$400 to be tried at the April term of Federal Court.

BOND-SMITH VERDICT

Edenton, Dec. 8.—Frank M. Bond and Harry Smith were convicted in Superior Court here Thursday on both counts of the indictment charging them with assault with intent to commit criminal assault upon Mrs. Arthur Edwards and Miss Viola White, in Bond's fish house on the night of October 18.

Each was fined \$300 and assessed the costs of court on the first count, and were ordered to appear before the court at the next term to pray judgment on the second count.

Refuse Sign License For Edgar Williams

The City license committee, consisting of the Mayor, the County Welfare Officer and the City Attorney, refused Friday morning to sign C. Edgar Williams' application for a license to operate a jitney in the city.

The committee has refused to sign Williams' application for a license all along. Last year, when the fact that any jitney driver's application for a license had to be signed by the officers named in the foregoing paragraph was brought to the attention of the City Council, after license had already been issued, causing all licenses issued to be revoked, Williams was eventually voted permission by the Council to operate until September without the signed application required by law, the Council warning him, however, at the time, that it would be necessary for him to obtain the endorsement of the license committee if he sought a jitney license in the future.

In September the committee still refused to sign Williams' application; but eventually endorsed the application of Ed. Jackson, negro jitney, to drive Williams' car on the understanding that the license was to be revoked should Williams' conduct bring him into trouble in police court or into disrepute in the eyes of the community.

The negro driver, Jackson, has now left Williams' employ, and Williams was found guilty by jury in police court Thursday of operating his car without license. Judgment in the case is to be pronounced Monday.

Pending the judgment Williams again appeared before the license committee Friday morning. In announcing that he would withhold pronouncement of sentence until Monday morning, Trial Justice Spence said Thursday that he had made up his mind that this defendant would have to be taught some respect for the courts and the law.

KILLED IN SALISBURY IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Salisbury, Dec. 8 (By The Associated Press)—Thomas Foster was killed and Sadie Gantt injured in an auto plunge here last night.

YOUNG WOMAN'S CLUB SERVES SUPPER SATURDAY

The Young Woman's Club will serve supper in their club rooms Saturday evening from 5:30 to 8:30 for the convenience of downtown shoppers.

He announced his purpose to invite the Governors of the States to an early conference with Federal authorities with a view to adopting definite policies of national and state co-operation in administering prohibition, saying that the day is unlikely to come when the amendment will be repealed and the nation should adapt its course accordingly.

He proposed that the Railroad Labor Board be abolished with a substitution of a labor division in the Interstate Commerce Commission with ample power to require its rulings to be accepted by both parties of the disputed question.

He urged the co-ordination of all transportation facilities including not only inland waterways but motor trucks as well.

More extended credit to farmers was strongly urged by the Executive, who declared that the very proof of helpfulness already given is the strongest personal argument for permanent establishment of widened credits.

Two constitutional amendments were proposed, one giving Congress authority over child labor, and the other would restrict issues of tax exempt securities.

Mass Meeting Sunday Mt. Lebanon Church

Colored People Of Elizabeth City Will Help New Bern Sufferers

The Colored Welfare Society and Charity Board is the organization named by the New Bern Relief Committee to receive funds from the colored people of this city, and a mass meeting is called for Sunday afternoon, December 10th, at three o'clock at Mt. Lebanon church. "The purpose of this meeting is to receive contributions of money to assist the stricken city of New Bern. All churches, schools, fraternal orders, social clubs and civic organizations are asked to send their representatives. A special collection will be taken up in all the city churches and everyone is asked to go prepared to give liberally," says the secretary of the Colored Welfare Society.

CONSIDER HARDING FOR FEDERAL RESERVE

Washington, Dec. 8 (By The Associated Press)—The Treasury has announced that W. P. G. Harding is among those considered for the next governor of the Federal Reserve Board.

Defend New Bern Fire Department

New Bern, Dec. 8 (By The Associated Press)—Mayor Clark and Deputy Fire Insurance Commissioner Canady are defending the city's fire department against the State's report of negligence.

STATESVILLE CASHIER RETURNS TO MAKE GOOD

Statesville, Dec. 8 (By The Associated Press)—A. W. White, missing Stony Point cashier, has returned and will make good the alleged \$9,000 shortage. It is announced.

PREMIER OF ULSTER LEAVES FOR LONDON

Belfast, Dec. 8 (By The Associated Press)—Premier Craig of Ulster has departed for London with an address to the King, contracting Ulster out of the Free State.

Miss Bert Ganderson, of Washington, D. C., is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Ganderson, on Cherry street.