

THE WEATHER
Fair tonight, Sunday
cloudy and warmer,
much colder by Monday
night.

The Daily Advance

CIRCULATION
Friday
2,326 Copies

VOL. XIII. FINAL EDITION. ELIZABETH CITY, NORTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 29, 1923. EIGHT PAGES. NO. 362.

Tangier Looms Again As Storm Center Of Europe

African Port Where Wilhelm II Came Within Ace of Precipitating World War in 1905 Again in World News as Possible Future Casus Belli

By FRANK H. SIMMONS
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Washington, Dec. 28.—Still a new angle to the present Mediterranean problem has been supplied by the recent Anglo-French-Spanish adjustment of the Tangier dispute. The dispute is a survival of now almost forgotten Moroccan crises which in 1905, 1908 and 1911 almost brought Europe to the World War which finally did arrive in 1914.

By the Anglo-French agreement of 1904, Britain recognized French supremacy in Morocco south of the Rif, of Spanish supremacy on the Mediterranean shore and all three nations united in recognizing the neutrality of the Tangier shore facing Gibraltar.

During the World War this arrangement as to Tangier, which carried with it a scheme of internationalization worked badly and in the end, after Tangier became a base for German operations, France and Great Britain joined in taking steps which to all intents and purposes abolished the international regime and substituted an Allied control, in which French influence was predominant.

Since the war there has been much friction and many efforts to get to an adjustment. France would like Tangier, because it is the natural terminus of the railway line leading to Fez and is provided for in the Treaty of 1911. Spain would like it, because it is an enclave in the Spanish Moroccan area. Britain would like to have it continue to be international, because it faces Gibraltar and in French hands would constitute a strategic counterbalance to the British stronghold.

There has been a good deal of subsurface discussion of the question and in recent times Italy has added a new disturbing element by demanding to participate in the discussion and settlement. This petition has been rejected by both the British and the French and one consequence was the recent political discussion between Italy and Spain when the Spanish sovereign visited Rome.

The situation is very complex. France and Britain, while allies are very old rivals in the Mediterranean. Left to themselves, they could hardly agree. Spain regards British possession of Gibraltar as a continuing injury. But, despite natural quarrels, France and Britain view with disgust the mounting challenge to both of Italian aspirations and it would seem that both have been able to reach a compromise for the moment. Whether Spain will ratify the new management remains doubtful.

While the terms of the compromise are somewhat obscure, it would seem that France has made some progress toward the ultimate possession of Tangier as the sovereignty of the Sultan of Morocco has been reasserted and the Sultan is entirely a creature of France, while French officials are to reside in the new international body which will control in Tangier. Undoubtedly some new arrangement has also been made about the railroad which is to connect Tangier with the Rabat Fez railway on the French zone already operating.

But in the larger sense the importance of the new agreement is to be found in the apparent restoration of Anglo-French cooperation in the Mediterranean and its obvious response to recent Spanish-Italian gestures. Italy aims almost openly at taking Malta from Britain and Tunis from France. Spain still nourishes the old hope of reclaiming Gibraltar. Thus a combination of these Latin powers, such as seemed to be forming at Rome recently had unmistakable significance both for Paris and for London.

For France it is a matter of life and death to keep open the sea road from Marseilles and Toulon to the North African ports of Algeria and Tunis, for this is the route by which France must bring her colonial troops to Europe in case of war. For Britain the short road to India and the Far East is still through the Mediterranean. In association, as they were before and during the World War France and Britain can assure safety of both sea roads by reason of their naval strength. But France alone is now hardly a match for Spain and Italy, owing to the Washington Treaty.

By virtue of the French association with the little Entente, France is in a position to make use of Jugoslavia, in case of trouble with Italy and by supporting Slav claims in the Adriatic to cause Italy much discomfort. Obviously the Italian answer is to make a combination with Spain, Great Britain, on her side, patently attempted to use Greece as a pawn in the game, but Greek collapse has made this impossible, while the Italian

SIMMONS SPEAKS TO N. C. SHIPPERS

Endorses Morrison's Plan — Governor Also Speaks and Promises Virginia a Good Licking.

Goldsboro, Dec. 28.—An endorsement of Governor Morrison's plan for obtaining better terminal facilities at North Carolina ports and if necessary a State owned ship line as proposed by the Governor was voted here yesterday by Senator Simmons in his address before the Eastern Carolina Shippers Association.

The meeting was called for the purpose of discussing the case brought by Virginia cities before the Interstate Commerce Commission which members of the association declared was designed to increase North Carolina intra-state freight rates.

Governor Morrison also spoke at the meeting. "I am going to take you men and give Virginia the best beating North Carolina ever gave anybody," he said.

W. H. Weatherly, Sr., of Elizabeth City was named one of the vice presidents of the association.

COMMERCIAL SECRETARIES COMING HERE IN FEBRUARY

The commercial secretaries of the State will come to Elizabeth City for conference in February. Secretary Job of the Elizabeth City Chamber of Commerce said Saturday upon his return from Goldsboro, where he attended a similar conference following the freight rate meeting at Goldsboro Friday addressed by Senator Simmons, Governor Morrison and Congressman Abernethy.

Mr. Job reports a most enthusiastic and representative meeting on the freight rate question. Among the towns represented were: Ahoskie, Belhaven, Fayetteville, Goldsboro, Greenville, Morehead City, New Bern, Rocky Mount, Southern Pines, Washington, Wilmington, Wilson, Kinston, Elizabeth City and Raleigh.

NEW YORK DOCTOR HEADS SCIENTISTS

Cincinnati, Dec. 28.—Dr. J. McKee Cattell of New York was today elected president of the American Association for Advancement of Science to succeed Prof. C. D. Walcott, of Washington.

POSSES SEARCH FOR CONVICT IN HILLS

MI. Sterling, Ky., Dec. 28.—Posses are searching the isolated Hill district of Monfey County for Rees, Brian, former convict, alleged to have drugged a girl from her horse while she was en route to her brother's wedding. A man in passing interfered and she was not seriously wounded.

FEAR STEAMER HAS FOUNDERED

London, Dec. 28.—It is feared that the United States Shipping Board Steamer Conjee has foundered, inasmuch as ships that went to her assistance report no trace of the steamer and nothing has been heard of her since the Constantinople agent of the Shipping Board relayed a S. O. S. message that she was sinking.

The crew numbers 35, and she is registered at 3,316 tons net.

FIRE ON HARNEY STREET

The fire company was called to the home of Mrs. S. E. Evans on Harney street shortly after 1 o'clock Saturday to a fire which was extinguished by chemicals and did little damage.

VETERAN MARRIES ON HIS DEATH BED

Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 28.—Rev. Wolfe, war veteran, on what was considered his deathbed, today married Kathleen McGovern, his nurse, and immediately afterwards made his bride the beneficiary of his \$10,000 war risk insurance. The beneficiaries before the transfer were his uncle and aunt.

FUNERAL J. B. FEARING

The funeral of J. B. Fearing, Sr., who died Thursday morning at his home on Riverside Drive, was conducted at the home Saturday morning at 11 o'clock by Rev. G. P. Hill. Music was rendered by the Episcopal choir. The active pallbearers were: R. B. Martin, Miles Jennings, H. G. Kramer, C. W. Melick, J. T. McCabe, and M. R. Griffin. The honorary pallbearers were: Louis Sells, W. A. Brock, William McQueen, Chas. Reid, M. L. Sanderlin, Charles Martin, Dr. J. H. White, Oscar Davis and Galtner Harris.

BELIEVE EXPLOSION WRECKED DINNITUDE

By The Associated Press
Paris, Dec. 28.—A letter from London is supposed to have caused the Dinwiddie disaster, advises from Rome said today.

Nothing was found of the chest of Lieutenant Greenham, commander, whose body was recovered by Italian men on Sicily to show that he left the ship to be in immediate danger. He was stopped at 2:30. Stiffness of his body was seen flashes at sea at that hour on the morning of the 26.

RATS RESPONSIBLE FOR WOMAN'S DEATH

Walkerton, Ind., Dec. 28.—Rats gnawing at the defenseless body of Mrs. Margaret Taylor, 75-year-old paralytic, were responsible for her death as she lay in bed at her home here, the coroner said today.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA SUNDAY AFTERNOON

The choir of the First Methodist Church will render its Christmas cantata, "The Light of the World," by Adam Gelbel, at 5 o'clock on Sunday afternoon. This hour is chosen that all lovers of sacred music may have the opportunity to attend.

Program.
Prelude.
Recitative, soprano: "Behold, I bring you glad tidings."
Chorus: "Hail, the Hope of All the Ages."
Recitative, tenor: "Ye Shall Find the Babe."
Duet, contralto and tenor: "Hath Earth No Room for Thee."
Chorus: "Ye Portals Swine."
Solo, tenor: "Comfort Ye My People."
Chorus: "Where Is He, the Heavenly Shepherd?"
Solo, soprano: "Star of the New-born King."
Solo, baritone and quartet: "Noah the Light of a Star."
Solo, contralto, with chorus: "Little Child So Sweetly Sleeping."
Chorus and quartet: "Oh, Worship Him."

SHRINERS RETURN FROM CEREMONIAL AT NEW BERN

Washington, Dec. 28.—The Washington Shriners who visited New Bern Thursday to attend the fall ceremonial and regular business session of Sudan Temple returned home late Thursday night over heavy muddy roads.

They report a good time, however, and an interesting session at the temple and later at the ceremonial hall where 86 candidates were received into the innermost circles of the mystic shrine under the guidance of gentle Nobles.

The annual election of officers did not bring out much opposition, only one ballot being cast, that for Oriental Duke, when a Goldsboro man was elected over a Washington nominee by a few votes.

Jack T. Lassiter of Rocky Mount, was elected Potentate, to succeed Raymond C. Dunn of Enfield. Rocky Mount also secured the meeting of the 1924 Shrine Ceremonial sometime probably in May.

The treasurer and recorder were both re-elected by acclamation, succeeding themselves. The oyster roast and box luncheon given the Shriners at the Planters' warehouse was done on a large scale. Several hundred bushels of oysters in the shell were served piping hot. At the Shrine Home the ladies of the Eastern Star entertained the lady visitors in the afternoon, and later joined them in a turkey dinner at 6 p. m.

CONFESSES KILLING ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Hopewell, Va., Dec. 28.—According to the commonwealth's attorney today, James Christie has confessed to killing Peter Petroff, groceryman on Christmas day, giving robbery as the motive.

When the merchant refused to give him \$10 he was struck on the head with a meat cleaver and robbed of \$70 in cash and some checks. Petroff's body was found by customers. After the confession Christie was rushed to jail at Richmond for safe keeping.

TOBACCO REGULATION IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL

Lynchburg, December 28.—Judge Whitaker today declared the act of the assembly designed to regulate the sale of tobacco on auction floors unconstitutional and dismissed the case against the warehouse corporation charged with selling tobacco for alleged members of the co-operative association under assumed names.

WILL REPEAT CANTATA BY REQUEST OF PUBLIC

The Christmas cantata, "The World's Redeemer," by Holton, given by Blackwell Memorial choir under the direction of L. E. Skinner last Sunday will be repeated Sunday evening by request.

New York's New Year To Be Exceeding Wet

And Wetness Will Come Dear to Boobs and Goofs Who Go Out for a Gay Time in Bright Lights on New Years Eve

By ROBERT T. SMALL
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New York, Dec. 28.—New York is preparing for a \$10,000,000 celebration of New Years Eve. From the preparations that are being made it is apparent the merrymaking will surpass anything seen in the city before.

JONES HELD FOR SUPERIOR COURT

With the amount of his bond reduced, no showing having been made of any evidence of first degree murder, from \$25,000 to \$15,000, Alex E. Jones of Newland township, Pasquotank County, was held for Superior Court Saturday morning by Magistrate T. H. Wilson and is out under bail in that amount.

Bail was not resisted by the State; but there was contention by the State that the bond, in view of the seriousness of the charge, should stand at \$25,000, as fixed by the court when the day was set for the preliminary hearing. The court held with the defense, however, that bond in the sum of \$15,000 was excessive on the evidence brought out by the State. Bail of \$25,000 was agreed to in the first place, the defense pointed out, because a magistrate does not have jurisdiction as to bail in a capital case before a preliminary hearing; and Magistrate Wilson was able to allow bail in any amount only because the State did not resist it.

Only two witnesses were put on by the State and the defense offered no evidence whatever. State's witnesses were Dr. William A. Peters and Sheriff Charles Reid.

Dr. Peters testified that Alfred Ferabee came to his death, by a blow on his head received on the night of December 20, in the hospital at Elizabeth City on the following Sunday. Post mortem examination, Dr. Peters said, disclosed the fact that the blow was of such force that the skull over the left eye was crushed in and that top of the skull was fractured about midway between the crown and the left ear, and that the floor of the skull at the base of the brain was also fractured to a point very nearly where a line from the eye would strike at right angles a line from ear to ear.

Sheriff Reid testified that he served a warrant on a charge of assault upon the defendant at about midnight on the night that Alfred Ferabee was struck and that Mr. Jones admitted that he hit the negro with a stick or a club as a result of the negro's persistence in asking for money and after the negro had cursed him and refused to get out of the premises when ordered to do so by the defendant. Sheriff Reid's understanding was that the blow was struck outside the Jones yard but on the Jones premises.

"One thing, nobody saw it," the sheriff testified that Jones told him when the arrest was made.

In the absence of Solicitor Small, County Prosecuting Attorney P. G. Sawyer represented the State, assisted by J. C. B. Ehringhaus, retained by Alfred Ferabee's estate. The defendant was represented by W. I. Habgood of South Mills, and by E. F. Ayldett and W. L. Cohoon of Elizabeth City.

CRUISER ROCHESTER SENT TO HONDURAS

Washington, Dec. 28.—The Cruiser Rochester, flagship of the special squadron of Central and South American waters, has been sent to the port of Amapala, Honduras, to remain in that vicinity until the disturbances in Honduras and Southern Mexico are quieted.

CABINET INSISTS UPON RESIGNING

By The Associated Press
Tokio, Dec. 28.—The prime minister this morning refused to accept and returned the resignations of members of the cabinet presented Thursday.

'COTTON MARKET

New York, December 28.—3901 cotton closed quiet this afternoon with a decline of 20 points. Midling 35.45. Futures, closed as follows: January 34.95; March 35.36; May 35.50; July 34.60; October 28.77.

The myriad bootleggers report their busiest season and the promise of a liquid evening is everywhere in the air. Prohibition agents admit their forces entirely inadequate to cope with the tens of thousands who will be on pleasure bent. The Volstead Act promises to be in for such a flouting as it has never known before.

And the cost of it all is the amazing thing. Apparently nothing staggers the New Yorker nowadays, nor does it deter the populace of the hinterland from flocking into the metropolis to pay the outrageous prices that are being demanded.

Mr. Ziegfeld is celebrating New Years Eve by bringing into town one of his newest productions which has been playing several weeks on the road at \$3 and \$4 a seat. All that Mr. Ziegfeld is going to charge the poor benighted New Yorker and his "sweetie" is \$16.50 a seat. Fred Stone, the missionary actor, who has been playing "Stepping Stones" at \$5.50 a seat has determined that the foolish virgins and others who are going out to make a night of it next Monday shall pay \$11 apiece to come to his theater before they go on to the restaurants where the real goading begins.

Altogether 42 theaters have announced prices that are doubled or more for New Years Eve. When the managers are asked why they have taken such drastic steps to shake down the populace they shrug their shoulders and say simply because they can get the money and the public likes it. The celebration of New Years Eve in the modern manner is a luxury if ever there was one. Money apparently counts for nothing and there is no one to blame the restaurant keepers and the theatrical producers for getting all they can out of the "boobs" and "goofs" who are out to make a splurge.

The restaurants and the roadhouses about the city are charging anywhere from \$10 a person up for "supper and dancing." But this is by no means an "inclusive" charge. Every bottle of mineral water or ginger ale that is served at a table will cost anywhere from \$4 upward. The bootleggers are not dumb. They know very well that the water and the ginger ale is merely ordered to serve as an adjunct to the thousands of gallons of liquor that it is in for consumption as 1924 steps out into a disordered world. And so the proprietors will more than make up in water charges for what they once received for wines and liquors. In other words the diners-out next Monday will be paying for water exactly the price they once paid for champagne.

At the rates they are charging, some of the road houses ought to pay off the mortgage with the proceeds of this one evening. They will serve a supper which usually would retail for about \$2 a plate. They will furnish souvenirs, rattles and dunce caps—oh, they are going in strong for dunce caps this year—at a cost of about 20 cents per person. The rest will be profit. At every table where drinks will be served during the long winter's evening it is figured that supper and water and other little extras will cost each person at least \$20 to \$25. This is of course provided you bring your own. If you have not been forehanded and have to make a deal with the waiter or the Maitre d'Hotel there is no telling where the expenditures will end. Probably not within \$50 per person.

None of the big hotels of the city will furnish drinks to their patrons, but there are hundreds of "exclusive" restaurants and supper clubs which are not expected to deviate from their established custom of selling cork tails, wines and whiskey to their regular patrons—just as they used to in the days before prohibition. The hotel managers have complained in vain against this practice and have tried to get the restaurants to stop it. But there are so many new restaurants springing up it has proved impossible to keep them in moral lines.

"Well" Montreal has been appealing to New Yorkers to come up there where the wine will freely flow at New Years time. Evidently Montreal's campaign has been based on the assumption that New York will be dry. New Yorker's refuse to give the idea a sober thought.

10 MOROS KILLED IN CLASH WITH SOLDIERS

Manila, Dec. 28.—Thirty-one Moros were killed in a clash with 60 soldiers at Malundo Island December 16, according to a dispatch today from Major Fletcher, commander at Zamboanga.