

THE NATION GOES DRY TONIGHT ON THE STROKE OF MIDNIGHT

SWAN SONG WILL BE SUNG FOR DEMON RUM

Bibulous Fraternity In New York Celebrates Passing of John Barleycorn By Night of Revelry - Liquor Brings Unbelievably High Prices, But That Is Least of Worries.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Jan. 16.—The bibulous fraternity in New York, having stayed up all night at the wake of John Barleycorn in the cafes and hotels along the White Way, put on its deepest mourning today in preparation for the final obsequies at midnight.

Statisticians were silent as to the exact shrinkage in the liquor supply here as the result of last night's well attended preliminary services, but it was admitted that there is enough remaining to provide for all today, no matter how firm the determination might be to leave not a drop undrunk upon the dawn of the dry era.

The revelry in the hotels and restaurants last night was declared to have put to shame all previous celebrations of a similar nature in New York. But the mourners declared that last night's affair was only a "tuning up" process for the last farewell tonight. Liquor brought almost unbelievably high prices, but that apparently was the least of the worries of the thirsty.

While the swan song is being chanted for demon rum tonight there will be celebrations of different character in many churches. Special services will be held and chimes at midnight will "ring out the old and ring in the new."

While officials as a rule maintained they were not looking for violations, the long-package parade expected today caused revenue officials to state that the law would be enforced in every particular commencing one minute after midnight. The revenue officers will be assisted by police in watching for violations.

Saloon keepers were not fully decided as to what course to pursue today. Many announced that they would keep open and sell "soft stuff," hoping that perhaps in some miraculous way a loophole would be found whereby John Barleycorn might be resurrected even if for only a short time.

Constitutional prohibition, effective at midnight tonight, and the enforcement legislation enacted by Congress, make the following provisions:

Declare unlawful the manufacture or sale of any beverage containing one-half of one percent or more of alcohol.

Declare places where liquor is sold in violation of law to be common nuisances, abatable as such.

Search and seizure powers given prohibition enforcement officers, except for the search of private dwellings unless used for the unlawful sale of intoxicants or in part as places of business.

Liquor seized to be destroyed, vehicles and other property to be sold and proceeds paid into United States Treasury.

Advertising of liquor by any method prohibited.

Permit manufacture at home for personal use of non-intoxicating ciders and fruit juice. While "non-intoxicating" is not defined specifically, the term "intoxicating" is construed by law to mean one-half of one percent or more of alcohol.

Permit manufacture of alcoholic liquors for sacramental and medicinal uses, under restrictions.

Permit manufacture of alcohol for industrial and scientific uses.

Permit possession of liquor in home if purchased before prohibition became effective.

Physicians prohibited from prescribing alcoholic liquor for patient unless in good faith they believe it will afford relief from ailment. Not more than one pint can be prescribed in any month for one person.

Complete records of sales, including names of persons obtaining liquors, required of manufacturers and druggists.

Various penalties for violation fixed, the most severe being \$2,000 fine and two years imprisonment.

EFFECTIVE AT 12:01 A. M.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—Constitutional prohibition, becomes effective at midnight tonight.

From 12:01 a. m., the "manufacture sale, or transportation of intoxicating li-

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BRITISH CABINET CALLED TO PARIS BY ACTIVITIES OF RUSSIAN RED ARMIES IN NEAR EAST

Bolshevik Successes In India, Persia, Mesopotamia Cause Apprehension In British Diplomatic Circles - Premier Lloyd George Confers on Military and Naval Matters.

(By The Associated Press.)

LONDON, Jan. 16.—Attention of the British people is fixed on the Near East, where recent bolshevik successes have carried the red Russian armies almost up to the threshold of India, Persia, Mesopotamia and Asiatic Turkey. Cabinet members and chiefs of the British army and navy were today in Paris, whither they were hastily summoned yesterday and are conferring with Premier David Lloyd George on military and naval matters in connection it is believed, with conditions in southwestern Asia.

Apprehensions were aroused by the issuance of a semi-official statement yesterday pointing out the situation that has arisen through the collapse of General Denikin's army in southern Russia and bolshevik penetrations of Trans-Caucasus. Not only was it admitted the menace from Russian bolshevik invasion from the northeast was very real, but it was pointed out that internal conditions in Persia, Turkey and Afghanistan were threatening.

In Mesopotamia, too, the British are forced to contend with difficulties arising from racial dissension. It was said that a soviet advance that captures the Crimea would make the Black Sea virtually a Russian bolshevik lake.

While there is a possibility the bolsheviks may launch an overwhelming attack against Poland, the statement issued yesterday showed the greatest pre-occupation of officialdom was over the

debacle of Denikin's armies and the rapid advance of the soviet forces toward the Persian and Afghan frontiers. For the past two months or more the bolsheviks have had an almost unbroken series of successes which have swept them forward on all fronts where their forces are believed to be formidable.

Admiral Kolenak's army in Siberia seems to have been completely defeated if not dispersed, and from the Yeneseze to the Caspian, a distance of 200 miles, the bolsheviks seem to be quite firmly established. From this line it would appear they might be able to essay incursions toward China to the east, or Afghanistan and Persia to the south. China lies south of the Caspian sea and bolshevik agents are said to be active there. Odessa is virtually hemmed in by the reds. Thinly veiled threats to resort to methods of terrorism should the bolsheviks be opposed by the entente, are contained in a wireless message here from Moscow. A return to wholesale executions was hinted.

BIRMINGHAM TEACHERS ADOPT SALARY SCALE.

(By The Associated Press.)

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Jan. 16.—A salary scale, providing for a minimum of \$1,000 and a maximum of \$1,750 per year was agreed upon today by the Birmingham Federation of Teachers, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and steps to put the new schedule into force will be taken shortly.

TWO MORE COTTON MILLS SOON TO BE ANNOUNCED

Dame Rumor Hath It on Substantial Authority That a Million and a Half Dollar Mill Is Among Next to Be Announced.

Definite announcement will be made in a few days of the organization of two more textile corporations for the city. One of them is described in the parlance of the street as being a "whale" of a mill, it being understood that the capital stock will be authorized at \$1,500,000. A 25,000-spindle mill is under consideration.

Still another mill of nearly equal proportions is contemplated. Both the above corporations, and probably a third are to be announced within a few days, although *The Gazette* is as yet unable to give any names, facts or figures other than the above except that the backers are two of the biggest and best known corporations in town.

MISS CLARISSA HARROLD DELIGHTS LARGE AUDIENCE

Noted Reader and Interpreter of Plays Renders Good Program at Central School Auditorium—Reprehensible Conduct on Part of Certain People.

Miss Clarissa Harrold, dramatic reader and artist par excellence, delighted a large audience last night in the Central school auditorium in the third attraction of the season in the Gastonia Lyceum course. Miss Harrold, a graduate of leading conservatories and schools of expression in the north is an expressionist and interpreter of plays unsurpassed by any who have appeared this way recently.

Her selection last night was a four-act play, "Friend Hannah," a beautifully touching little drama of the English Colonial period, the scene laid among the Quakers of Yorkshire county.

The story as told by Miss Harrold is one that is intensely interesting, especially to students of Revolutionary History in the United States and North Carolina for it concerns the marriage of King George III, of England to Princess Charlotte of Mecklenburg, Germany. According to the legend as told by Miss Harrold, George, at that time the Prince of Wales, fell in love with a young Quaker maiden, Hannah Lightfoot, who was ignorant of her suitor's identity. Much against the wishes of his friends he was secretly married to the demure and prim young Quakeress. On his wedding day, his father George the Second died, and he succeeded to the throne, all unknown, on account of political reasons to Hannah, his wife. The Queen mother and Prime Minister, however, discovered the fact of his marriage and coming by night in George's absence to his apartments persuaded the young bride to desert her husband to make way for the social alliance with the German Princess. Follows then, briefly the story of the War of the American Revolution and the well-known mental aberrations and blindness of George the Third, now an old man in his dotage, and a subsequent visit to the scene of his youthful courtship.

Many Gastonians who heard the story last night were surprised to hear of the legend whether or not based on fact. Others say that they have read the story somewhere or other. Miss Harrold says she does not know the author of the play and so far as she knows she is the only reader who presents this selection.

Miss Harrold is easily one of the best readers on the American stage today. Her stage appearance is beautiful and her tone and technique remarkable.

One certain regrettable feature of the evening and one, sad to say that has characterized several performances of late held in the graded school auditorium is the reprehensible conduct of certain occupants of the gallery seats. Miss Harrold, from the stage, not only noticed it, but remarked upon it afterwards to the writer. It is to be hoped that those guilty of such misconduct may be informed through the proper authorities of the disgracefulness of such proceedings.

—On account of the inclemency of the weather and other meetings scheduled for tonight, the regular meeting of Woodell Rebekah Lodge No. 128 will not be held. A called meeting will probably be held next Friday night.

ARMSTRONG HEADS MILL AT ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

At Organization Meeting Mildred Cotton Mills Company Col. Armstrong Announces Another Mill In His Chain, the Helen Cotton Mills Co., of Rock Hill - Accepts Presidency at Dollar a Year.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Mildred Cotton Mills Company, the thirteenth in the chain of Armstrong mills, held yesterday afternoon in the Armstrong offices in Gastonia, an organization was perfected by the election of the following board of directors: C. B. Armstrong, A. K. Winget, D. M. Jones, C. C. Armstrong, W. L. Wetzel, A. G. Myers, W. R. Armstrong, R. W. Stowe and W. B. Roddey. The directors in turn elected the following officers: C. B. Armstrong, president; C. C. Armstrong, vice-president and assistant treasurer; A. K. Winget, treasurer, and J. R. Armstrong, secretary.

The meeting was featured by the election of Col. Armstrong, to the presidency of the corporation at the war-time salary of one dollar per year, and a subsequent announcement by him that next week would see the organization of the Helen Cotton Mills Company at Rock Hill, S. C., the 14th in the chain.

At the opening of the meeting Colonel Armstrong explained the reasons leading to the organization of the Mildred Cotton Mills Company, and the further evident fact that some months would elapse before actual work was started. He stated, however, that work on side-tracks, warehouses and tenement houses would begin in the very near future. So great has the demand been for stock in this new mill of Col. Armstrong's that at yesterday's meeting it was decided to increase the common stock to \$800,000. Before the stockholders had left the building from the meeting more than \$100,000 was taken. The mill will be equipped with 20,000 spindles.

When twitted by some superstitious stockholders present on the rashness and inadvisability of presiding at the organization of cotton mill No. 13, Col. Armstrong replied:

"Well, if there's any hoodoo attached, it won't last more than a few days, for we are going to organize the Helen Cotton Mills at Rock Hill next week. That will make 14, so the '13' hang-over will not be for long."

When asked his reason for the \$1 a year salary, Col. Armstrong replied that on account of the fact that so long a time would elapse between this organization meeting and the actual operation of the management he felt that in justice to the stockholders he should not command, as directing head, any more than that sum until the duties should become more onerous.

REGINALD DE KOVEN DIED EARLY TODAY

(By The Associated Press.)

CHICAGO, Jan. 16.—Reginald de Koven, American operatic composer and conductor, died here early today of apoplexy.

Mr. De Koven, who had been here for several weeks superintending the production of his opera "Rip Van Winkle," was attending a dinner at the home of Mrs. Joseph Fish, when he suddenly became ill. He died within a few minutes. The body was taken to the home of a brother-in-law, Robert G. McGann.

Mr. De Koven was the founder of the Washington symphony orchestra, of which he also was conductor. He was the composer of a number of operas, and also had written various music for orchestra and piano. A large number of songs, including "Oh, Promise Me," and "A Recessional," were among his works.

Among De Koven's best known operas are "Rip Van Winkle," said to have been the first all-American opera ever produced, and which had its premier in Chicago two weeks ago, and "Robin Hood," "The Mandarin," "Her Little Highness" and "The Wedding Trip" were others.

De Koven was born at Middletown, Conn., April 3, 1861. He graduated from Oxford in 1880 and studied music at Stuttgart, Florence, Paris and Vienna. Besides writing music he served as a musical critic on various New York publications.

Mrs. De Koven had been with her husband until three days ago, when she returned to their home in New York. A daughter, Mrs. H. K. Hudson, lives in New York.

FIRST PROTEST TO LEAGUE COMES FROM IRISH

League of Nations Came Into Being at 10:30 Yesterday Morning - Irish Republic Makes First Formal Protest to League - January 16 Date of Birth of New World.

(By The Associated Press.)

PARIS, Jan. 16.—Representatives of France, Great Britain, Italy, Greece, Belgium, Spain, Japan, Portugal and Brazil, members of the council of the league of nations, met in the "clock room" of the French foreign office at 10 o'clock this morning for the first meeting of the league.

PARIS, Jan. 16.—The council of the league of nations received the first formal protest to be presented it almost before it came into being with today's initial sessions. The protest was from "the envoys of the elected government of the Irish republic," against "the unreal English simulacrum of an international league of peace."

No mention of the protest was made during the meeting of the council but copies were hand to the newspaper correspondents after the left the foreign office. The document was signed "Ouilaligh Duffy." It registered objections to the "pretended league of nations" and declared the league to be an "engine and empire, designed to secure and perpetuate English hegemony throughout both hemispheres."

The protest insisted that the league was illusory and incomplete in authority and sanction, and declared that the United States stood out "in indignation and repudiation of it."

The council organized at 10:30 o'clock by electing Leon Bourgeois chairman and confirming the choice of Sir Eric Drummond of Great Britain, as general secretary.

The first official act of the council was the appointment of a commission to trace upon the spot the frontiers of the territory of the Sarre basin.

Leon Bourgeois, French representative, who presided, said:

"The task of presiding at this meeting and inaugurating this great international institution should have fallen to President Wilson. We respect the reasons which still delay final decision by our friends in Washington, but express the hope that their differences will soon be overcome and that a representative of the great American republic will occupy the place waiting him among us. The work of the council will then assume definite character and will have that particular force which should be associated with our work."

"January 16, 1920, will go down in history as the date of the birth of a new world. Decisions to be reached today will be in the name of all nations adhering to the covenant of the league."

It will be the first decree of all free nations leaguely themselves together for the first time in the world to substitute right for might. But the organization of the league of nations will not be complete until the assembly of all the states meets."

Earl Curzon, British secretary for foreign affairs, and that nation's representative on the council of the league, said:

"On behalf of the British empire, I desire to express the loyalty of my government and the external dominions of the British crown to the spirit underlying the covenant of the league of nations. It is our intention by every means in our power to insure its practical efficiency. It is our firm belief that through its instrumentality alone we can hope to insure that such miseries that the world has experienced during the past five years shall not be repeated, and that a new era of international relationship shall dawn."

"The league of nations is an expression of the universal desire for saner methods of regulating affairs of mankind, and provides machinery by which practical effect may be given by the principles of international friendship and good understanding. The success of the labors of the peace conference is a good augury for the future of the league of nations. For the first time an attempt was made to bring together under the auspices of the league representatives of governments, employes and laborers, and an advance exceeding the results of the entire work of the previous quarter of a century has been made in the field of international action on industrial questions."

All the members of the council called for by the covenant of the league with the exception of the representatives of the United States, were present when M. Bourgeois called the meeting to order. Besides M. Bourgeois, the members were Earl Curzon, the British foreign secretary, for Great Britain; Premier Venizelos, for Greece; Carlo Ferraris, Italian minister of industry, commerce, labor and food; for Italy; Paul Hymans, the Belgian foreign minister, for Belgium; Baron Matsui, ambassador to France, for Japan; Dr. Gastao Da Cunha, ambassador to France, for Brazil; Count Quisones de Leon, ambassador to France, for Spain.

Premier Lloyd George, of Great Britain, and Viscount Grey dropped into the meeting at an early stage. Mr. Lloyd

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UNITED STATES REMAINS OUT OF GREAT CONFEDERATION OF LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Purpose of League Is "To Promote International Co-operation and to Achieve International Peace and Security"—Thirty-two Nations Were Original Members of League.

(By The Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Jan. 16.—The purpose of the league of nations, the council of which holds its first meeting in Paris today, was declared in the covenant of the league to be "to promote international co-operation and to achieve international peace and security." This was to be accomplished, according to the covenant, by the nations obligating themselves not to resort to war; by prescribing open just and honorable relations between them; by establishing international law as an actual rule of conduct among the governments and by maintaining justice and a scrupulous respect for all treaty obligations.

Thirty-two nations were to become the critical members of the league upon signing the treaty of peace. These nations as listed in the annex to the covenant were:

United States of America, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, British empire, Canada, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, India, China, Cuba, Ecuador, France, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hedjaz, Honduras, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Panama, Nicaragua, Poland, Rumania, Serb-Croat-Slovene state, Siam, Czecho-Slovakia and Uruguay.

Of the foregoing nations a number, however, have not ratified and signed the

peace treaty. Notable among these is the United States, which, therefore, remains outside the great confederation.

The league is composed of a council and an assembly. The council is made up of representatives of the principal allied and associated powers - Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan. The United States is entitled to membership in the council if it ratifies the peace treaty and agrees to the covenant. The council includes also representatives of Belgium, Brazil, Spain and Greece.

The assembly is to consist of representatives of members of the league, each member to have one vote and not more than three representatives.

The covenant provides that the council shall meet from time to time and at least once a year. The council is to formulate plans for the reduction of national armaments.

The members of the league undertake in the famous article ten to respect and preserve as against external aggression the territorial integrity and existing political independence of all members.

In case of war or threat of war, the council will meet in special session. Members are pledged to submit matters of dispute to arbitration and not to resort to war until three months after the award.