

## KAPP DECIDES TO RETIRE FROM GOVERNMENTAL HEAD

### Together With His Military Lieutenant Will Step Down and Out - Socialists Had Threatened to Attack New Government.

(By Associated Press.)

PARIS, March 17.—Dr. Wolfgang Kapp, the new German chancellor, and General von Luetwitz, his military lieutenant, have decided to retire from the direction of German governmental affairs unconditionally, according to a despatch received here from Frankfurt quoting advice to the Gazette of that city. It is said this decision was reached after negotiations with independent socialists led by Dr. Cohn, in which the latter had threatened to attack the new government forces with armed workmen.

### STRIKE MAY PRESENT

ASSEMBLY FROM MEETING STUTTGART, March 17.—It is doubtful if the German national assembly will be able to meet here today as planned. Because of the railroad strike a great many members will be unable to reach this city in time for the opening of the session, which was set yesterday for four o'clock this afternoon. In government circles there was much optimism over the situation this morning.

### EBERT HOLDS FIRM

COPENHAGEN, March 16.—President Ebert, head of the German government driven from Berlin last Saturday morning, stands firm in his determination not to have any relations with the new regime at the capital, says a short telegram received here from Stuttgart. Telegrams say that in the course of an interview President Ebert declared: "I am in complete accord with the imperial government. We have not so far deviated from the declaration we made on Friday night as to reply to the insurgent's ultimatum. There can be no question of an understanding with the perjured enemies of the German constitution."

### ALLIED TROOPS HAVE OCCUPIED CONSTANTINOPLE.

CONSTANTINOPLE, March 16.—Allied troops have occupied this city and the great guns of the British dreadnaught Bosporus and other giant allied warships, moored to quays or anchored in the Golden Horn, command both sides of the Bosphorus. Every ship is cleared for action.

The actual arrival of allied forces caused little alarm, nor were there any signs of panic except in Stamboul. Shopkeepers near the war office there closed their places of business when it was heard the allies were coming, but the troops inspired confidence and the stores were soon reopened.

All the allied powers participated in the movement, being under orders from the British commander in chief here, the Italian contingent including detachments having Moslems on their rosters. Four thousand blue jackets and marines were landed by British warships.

### SAY KAPP HAS NOT RESIGNED.

PARIS, March 17.—A despatch from Berlin timed in that city at 10:30 o'clock this morning, says the report that Chancellor Kapp has resigned is false.

### THIS ONE SAYS KAPP HAS RESIGNED.

BERLIN, March 17.—It is officially announced that Chancellor Kapp at one o'clock this afternoon decided to resign.

### PRUSSIAN AT STUTTGART.

LONDON, March 17.—General Markler, Dr. Karl Wilhelm Heine, of the Prussian ministry, and other, arrived at Stuttgart from Berlin late yesterday, according to a Stuttgart dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company. Members of the Ebert cabinet conferred for a long time and decided not to enter into negotiations with the delegation.

### DISORDERS AT BONN.

PARIS, March 17.—Disorders were caused at Bonn yesterday when a French military truck accidentally injured several persons while crossing a street, according to a Berlin despatch to The Journal. The mines in the Ruhr district of Germany are reported to be in the hands of workmen favoring the Ebert government.

Mrs. H. H. Jordan left this morning for Burlington, where she will spend a week or ten days visiting her mother, Mrs. F. E. Sellers.

That house divided against itself is like a community without a newspaper to bind it together.

## "WEARING OF THE GREEN" GIVES WAY TO TRI-COLOR

NEW YORK, March 17.—The traditional "wearing of the green" in St. Patrick's day parades on Fifth avenue gave way today to the wearing of the green, white and yellow—the tri-color of the "Irish republic"—in honor of Eamonn de Valera, head of the unrecognized government, who reviewed the 25,000 marchers from St. Patrick's cathedral. The parade was a "free island" demonstration, the like of which New York has never before witnessed. It also took on a "free India" aspect, for more than 1,000 representatives of that race marched with the sons of Erin.

While the colors of the Emerald Isle naturally predominated, the Stars and Stripes led the parade, followed by the "Fighting Irish 69th," formerly the 165th New York regiment. These veterans of the world war, who covered themselves with glory on the battlefields of France, wore their overseas equipment and steel helmets. Wounded members of the regiment rode in automobiles. Every Irish-American organization here was represented in the colorful procession.

Between the great Gothic towers of the stately cathedral floated the American flag and the tri-color of the republic. In addition to "President" de Valera, Governor Alfred E. Smith, former Governor Glynn, Mayor Hylan, Archbishop Hayes and a host of Catholic dignitaries were invited to the reviewing stand. Previous to the parade a pontifical mass was celebrated in the cathedral.

The festivities of the day include a dinner by the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick tonight, a ball by the Ancient Order of Hibernians and dances by the Daughters of Erin and other societies.

## WORST BLIZZARD IN THIRTY YEARS IN NORTH DAKOTA

BISMARCK, N. D., March 17.—Five known dead and thousands of dollars' damage to property was the toll of the two day blizzard which swept this state—the worst in more than thirty years. The storm early today was reported to be gradually subsiding with temperatures sinking.

One girl gave her life to save her sister and brother, while the heroic effort of another youth proved futile and he and his three brothers perished on the prairies during the storm.

When their sleigh was wrecked near Center by the wind, Hazel Miner, aged 18, took off her coat and wrapped it and blankets around her small brother and sister. For 24 hours they lay in the snowdrifts before they were found by searching parties. Hazel was dead but her action in bundling up the little ones saved their lives.

Adolph Wohlka, son of Gust Wohlka, a farmer living near Ryder, made a gallant attempt to bring assistance to his three brothers when the team of horses he was riding home died from exhaustion. After making his three brothers as comfortable as possible he set out for help. Twenty-four hours later his father found him and the other three children frozen in deep snowdrifts.

Virtually no freight trains were running in this state today and passenger service was slow. Two Great Northern trains were stuck in the snow near Minot.

Reports from Devil's Lake said there were snow banks from twenty to thirty feet deep between there and Minot. Hotels at Devil's Lake were said to be unable to handle the stranded travelers there and many persons were reported sleeping in coaches in the railroad yards. Relief was expected today.

## MEAGER RETURNS FROM NORTH DAKOTA PRIMARY.

BISMARCK, N. D., March 17.—Only meager returns from yesterday's presidential preference primary were available here early today because of poor wire communication and prospects for any definite figures for a week were slight. It was said the mails would have to be relied on to bring in the returns.

Although Senator Hiram Johnson, of California, was the only presidential candidate to enter the race in North Dakota, scattered reports indicated the names of Frank C. Lowden, governor of Illinois, and Major General Leonard Wood had been written on some ballots.

## THE GRAY PROPERTY SOLD FOR \$150,000

Fine Property on South and Franklin Sold Through F. M. Francum to Messrs. J. White Ware and W. W. Glenn — Will Be Developed For Business Purposes — Sale Marks Passing Fine Old Residence.

What is generally characterized as the largest real estate transaction in Gastonia was consummated yesterday when Mrs. Geo. A. Gray and children sold, through F. M. Francum, real estate dealer, to Messrs. J. White Ware and W. W. Glenn, the property at the corner of South street and Franklin Avenue, for a consideration of approximately \$150,000. The property, known as the Gray home for the past twenty years or longer, is one of the most valuable pieces of real estate in Gastonia. It has a frontage of 266 2-3 feet on South street and 250 feet on Franklin Avenue. It adjoins the city hall property and lies directly opposite the court house site. It is in the heart of the business section of the city and is admirably located for business purposes.

It is the intention of the buyers to put it into shape so that it may be improved for business uses. It is understood that Mrs. Gray retains the privilege of residence in the house for a period of six months, and it is hardly likely that any changes will be made prior to the expiration of that time.

The acquisition of this fine residence property by Messrs. Glenn and Ware is but another indication of the rapid inroads being made on residential real estate by business activities. The Gray residence and surroundings are one of the most beautiful in Gastonia, and general opinion was that it would continue as residential property.

The handsome home on the property was built by the late Geo. A. Gray, one of the pioneer cotton mill manufacturers in Gastonia some 20 years ago or longer. The site on which he built was once an old mill, there being a corn and wheat mill and a saw mill operated there. It was purchased by Mr. Gray from Mr. Miles Hanna for approximately \$2,500.

## SOLDIERS GIVE GOOD EXHIBITION HERE.

Anti-Craft Sham Battle Interests Large Gathering of Citizens.

Those who served in the field artillery branch of the U. S. Army during the war had their old fighting days in camp and on the front vividly recalled to mind Tuesday night when a detachment of soldiers from Fort Casswell in charge of a huge searchlight, and a squad from the 5th Field Artillery at Camp Taylor Ky., gave an exhibition of how hostile Hun airplanes were driven away.

Both the searchlight and the field-piece, an American "75", were the centers of attraction. It is hard to say which of the two proved the more interesting to the public. The light, a powerful and far reaching shaft that shot athwart the heavens was a revelation to those who had never seen one in action.

From its position, near the Central graded school building, it was played over the town and surrounding country and was plainly visible for miles around. Tall buildings and other objects upon which it was focused were revealed in startling clearness.

The crisp, barking staccato of the 3 inch field-piece, was probably more interesting to the younger element of the interested crowd of spectators. The firing of the "cannon," as it was popularly called by the school boys, was an event long to be remembered by them. Some 40 or 50 rounds were fired by the crew in charge.

A good idea of the meaning of the term "barrage," so much used nowadays can be obtained by the civilian if he can imagine last night's firing increased a hundred fold or more in intensity and rapidity and kept up for hours.

## LEEPER AND LEWIS NEW ENGINEERING FIRM

Announcement is made today of the formation of a new partnership for Gastonia to be known as Leeper and Lewis, consulting engineers. The new firm is composed of Messrs. W. E. Leeper and Robert L. Lewis, both graduates in civil engineering from N. C. State college. Mr. Leeper is a son of the late Jno. F. Leeper, of Belmont, for a number of years chairman of the Gaston county board of commissioners. Mr. Lewis is the son of Mr. E. Perry Lewis, of Gastonia.

The firm will do general engineering work, municipal, surveying, highway, etc. Since leaving college both men have been engaged in work with the State Highway Commission, with the Southern Railway and with the Union county road construction work.

The new firm will open for business about May 1.

All the members of the Pythian Drum Corps are requested to be present at the Armory tonight at 8 o'clock, to drill for the carnival this week.

## MERCHANTS FAVOR EARLY SATURDAY NIGHT CLOSING

Will Probably Begin Closing Saturday Night at 8 o'clock April 5th — To Wage War Against Fake Advertising — Salesmanship Lectures.

Placing a stringent ban on fake advertising projects, deciding to close at 6 o'clock in the evening during the week and at 8 o'clock on Saturday nights, taking steps toward holding a dollar day soon, planning to get a noted lecturer to come to Gastonia to deliver a series of lectures on salesmanship and store ethics and considering many other matters of interest, the merchant members of the Gastonia Chamber of Commerce held a rousing meeting at the offices of the Chamber last night under the auspices of the Department of Mercantile Affairs, with Director Jno. R. Rankin presiding. The offices were crowded. The gathering was in the nature of a smoker.

Hereafter advertising projects, other than those relating to advertising in periodicals, will be turned down by the merchants unless the sanction of the Chamber is shown. Under the plan adopted the Department of Mercantile Affairs will create a Sanction Committee, known only to the chairman and the secretary, whose duty it will be to pass upon all such propositions, which must be submitted to the secretary in writing.

Beginning the week after Easter the stores will close at 6 o'clock in the evening and on Saturday nights they will close at 8 o'clock.

A committee will be named to arrange at once for a dollar day soon. Much interest is being taken in this by the merchants.

It is planned to bring a noted lecturer here soon for a series of three lectures on salesmanship and store ethics. The merchants will take tickets for themselves and their clerks on a pro rata basis of the total cost.

It is the desire of Chairman Rankin and the other members of the Department of Mercantile Affairs to hold frequent meetings of the merchants and to make the department as active as possible.

## MR. PAGE MAKES GOOD SPEECH HERE

Gubernatorial Candidate Speaks to Fairly Good Crowd at Courthouse — Takes Stand For Revaluation Act, Better Schools and Roads.

Hon. Robert N. Page, candidate for Governor of North Carolina, addressed a good-sized audience at the courthouse last night. Despite counter attractions in the city, a number of his friends and backers were present. Others who were known to be Morrison and Gardner men were also present. Mr. Page is a good speaker and he made a good impression on those who heard him last night. He presented the issues of the campaign in a clear, logical manner.

Advocating the application of business principles to the administration of our State government, he said: "Without criticism of my party or any former administration, it seems to me the business of the public, ordinarily known as 'The State', needs to be organized with the end in view of attaining the maximum efficiency at the minimum of expense." "Our business has expanded tremendously in recent years, have our methods kept pace with this expansion?" "It shall be my purpose, if elected Governor, to insist upon legislative authority for a thorough business survey by recognized organization experts of all our governmental agencies, with the one purpose in view of attaining the greatest possible efficiency in the administration of the business of government."

Mr. Page reiterated his endorsement of the Revaluation Act made in a speech some time ago at Winston-Salem. He quoted Article 5 of the State Constitution to the effect that all real and personal property shall be assessed according to its true value in money. He declared that he favored the Revaluation Act because the purpose intended by it is to right a wrong of long standing by complying with this Constitutional provision. "The adoption of a 100 per cent basis of value in making assessment of property is essential for the reason that there is no other way to secure uniformity," said Mr. Page. He urged the adoption of the Income Tax Amendment and endorsed the Inheritance Tax.

Mr. Page favored the improvement of our public school system, our public health service and the betterment of living conditions in the country districts.

Declaring the misunderstanding between capital and labor to be one of the biggest questions we have to solve, Mr. Page said: "We cannot destroy either the organization of capital or labor." "If we are fair-minded, if the right is conferred on one it cannot be denied the other." "He said that the solution must come outside of legal enactment, and that the best proposal yet advanced, and that is proving a success wherever tried, is profit sharing through organized 'Industrial Democracy'."

## CHAOTIC CONDITIONS IN GERMANY THREATEN DISASTER

### Spartan Elements Seize the Opportunity to Stir Up Trouble - Conditions Have Grown Worse During Past 24 Hours.

(By The Associated Press.)

## THANK GODDNESS, SIMS IS NEARLY THROUGH

WASHINGTON, March 17.—Nearing the end of his long statement to the senate investigating committee, Rear Admiral Sims today elaborated his charges that the inadequacy of his staff abroad prevented for several months maximum efficiency in the United States' naval participation in the war. He testified that he was unable to bring the navy department to a realization of the importance of his post and the necessity for providing a large staff at the outset to compile and digest allied naval information and direct the early details of American co-operation on the seas.

Admiral Sims said he arrived in London in April, 1917, with but one aide, and immediately, realizing the magnitude of the task confronting him, cabled the department requesting that three additional assistants be sent him at once. Before he received any reply, he was placed also in command of the destroyer force abroad, and thereupon asked for three more officers, including a chief of staff, expecting that the request would be granted without question.

The last of April one officer arrived and was assigned to the destroyer base at Queenstown, Admiral Sims said, but no word came from the department regarding his reiterated requests for at least six assistants. Throughout June he remained in ignorance of the department's plans and received no further aid, the officer said.

An American civilian who had resigned from the navy in 1914 to enter into business in London volunteered to assist him, the admiral said, and this man with his one aid comprised his entire London staff.

"My staff then was wholly inadequate even to code and decode messages to and from the department," he commented, "much less attempt to compile vitally necessary information."

In June, a medical officer was ordered to his staff, the admiral said, and about the same time Secretary Daniels cabled him authority to employ clerical assistance and spend any sums needed for the discharge of his duties, but nothing was done regarding the officers he had asked for. In repeated messages Admiral Sims said he urged recommended that a special officer be detailed to the British admiralty to co-ordinate convoy plans, but never received an answer. Finally he detached the captain from a destroyer and assigned him to this duty.

"We had reached the limit of physical endurance," Admiral Sims said. "We were established in two small rooms at the embassy and despatches were pouring in on us every day. I only wish that I were capable of describing the conditions in my office at this time."

On July 7, Captain N. C. Twining was detailed to be his chief of staff, the admiral said, and another officer was sent to assist him. At this period, he said, continual differences with the department were demonstrating the need of closer liaison between his office and Washington, the admiral said, due to his inability to send and reply to letters and cables.

Throughout July he continually warned the department that troop convoys were being endangered by lack of proper assistance abroad, the admiral said, and protested against the department's inclination to send him young and inexperienced officers and keep the older ones in home waters.

## ON THE POINT OF COLLAPSE.

COPENHAGEN, March 17.—Everything is quiet at Chemnitz, according to a telegram received today, which says workers continue to strike, but that vital important services are kept running. A committee of 21 members has succeeded the provisional committee of workers councils. In the industrial region of Erzgebirge and in Vogtland, a similar arrangement has been made and the committees have assumed entire political and economic authority.

A telegram from Hamburg quotes the following message from Stuttgart: "Dr. Wolfgang Kapp's regime is on the point of collapse. Its influence now extends only to parts of Berlin and east Germany. Dr. Kapp is trying by promises to entice independent socialists to his side. Reports of negotiations between the Kappists and the constitutionalists are false. Regular army in west and south Germany and in Saxony loyal. Members of the national assembly must come to Stuttgart as quickly as possible."

"Imperial Minister Koch."

PARIS, March 17.—Conditions in Germany, already chaotic, have been growing worse during the last 24 hours, it was indicated by despatches reaching this city late last night. While there is little doubt the reactionary movement headed by Dr. Wolfgang Kapp will be a fiasco the general strike weapon which the Ebert regime has been obliged to use against it is casting the country into greater confusion.

Spartan elements have seized their opportunity to stir up as much trouble as possible and disorders in many parts of Germany are attributed to the activities of these "stormy petrels."

There is no doubt the Ebert government, appalled by the economic consequences of a prolongation of existing conditions, is negotiating, if not with the coterie led by Dr. Kapp, at least with conservatives who have been careful not to identify themselves with Dr. Kapp. A combination of forces making restoration of order as rapidly as possible may be brought about, but how far political parties are masters of the situation is a mooted point. The next few days will demonstrate whether it is possible to stem the tide of disaster in Germany.

## 59 PERSONS KILLED.

PARIS, March 17.—Fifty-nine persons have been killed and upwards of a hundred wounded in disorders at Treves in the American zone of occupation southwest of Coblenz, according to advices received here. Revised figures for the casualties in the fighting at Dresden are said to show that more than 100 were killed and 300 wounded.

## MYSTERIOUS WOMAN VISITS THE FORMER KAISER

AMERONGEN, March 16.—Considerable excitement was caused here on Sunday by an attempt by a German woman to visit former Emperor William. She appeared at the gates of Bentinck castle, but was denied admittance, and later had a conversation with the steward of the castle, leaving a bouquet of flowers for Count Hohenollern.

There were rumors that her name was Kapp, which is the name of the Chancellor of the new German government, but there is no confirmation of this report as yet.

The former emperor is still engaged in sawing wood and has not been permitted to leave the castle even for a visit at Doorn since Saturday.

## FAVOR SOVIET REPUBLIC.

LONDON, March 17.—Independent socialists and communists in Germany have commenced a violent agitation in favor of a soviet republic and an alliance with soviet Russia, according to a Berlin despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company.

## MORE TO BE FEARED FROM SPARTACANS

PARIS, March 17.—News from Berlin and other German points, telling of sanguinary clashes at Essen, Dortmund, Leipzig, Mannheim, Frankfurt and Brunswick, together with a report that a council of workmen had assumed power at Chemnitz, has given the impression here that there is more to be feared from a revival of the Spartan movement than from the activities of the Kapp movement in Berlin.

According to the latest despatches, the military movement has resulted in bloodshed in twenty-four German towns. The Spartacans are reported to have risen in Dresden, where a clash with troops is declared to have resulted in a casualty list of 100 dead and 300 wounded. Fighting in Breslau, Hamburg and Kiel also is reported.

## MOB STORMS FRENCH H. Q.

PARIS, March 17.—A mob has stormed French headquarters at Bonn and pillaged stores and private houses, says a Berlin despatch to The Journal. The disorder began by an attack on a French military automobile truck, the driver and several French officers narrowly escaping being lynched. Police officers were obliged to fire upon the mob, the despatch says.

## EBERT HOLDS HAMBURG.

COPENHAGEN, March 16.—Hamburg and its western suburb, Altona, are now definitely in the hands of the followers of the Ebert government of Germany, according to a dispatch to the Social Democrats. General von Wangenheim, who was defeated and captured at Altona, has joined the troops loyal to the Ebert regime.