

The Polk County News

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TRADE COMMISSION BEGINS THEIR WORK

MEMBERS OF GREAT GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY TAKE OATH OF OFFICE.

GREAT CONTROLLING POWER

Will Exercise Supervision Over American Enterprises.—Davis is First Chairman.

Washington.—The second great governmental agency created by Congress in President Wilson's Administration came into being when Joseph E. Davies of Wisconsin, Edward N. Harris of Illinois, William J. Harris of Georgia, William H. Parry of Washington and George Rublee of New Hampshire were sworn in as members of the Federal Trade Commission with far-reaching powers of supervision over American enterprises. There were only the simplest ceremonies. Chief Justice J. Harry Covington of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, administered the oath, completing the work he began as a member of Congress, when he introduced the bill creating the commission. Later in the week the commissioners will be received by President Wilson.

All of the commissioners were in Washington engaged in preliminary conferences. Mr. Davies, who is the first chairman of the commission, called the first formal meeting immediately following the induction of the members into office. From that time on the commission will be in daily session.

No announcement as to the first problem to be attacked has been made.

Through the absorption of the Bureau of Corporations in the Commerce Department by the new commission, its work of organization will be greatly simplified. The office staff and records of that bureau are transferred to the commission and furnish a working force already organized and equipped with much information as to the corporations with which the commission will deal. The declared purpose of the trade commission is to establish regulated competition among concerns engaged in interstate transactions.

ENGLAND EXPLAINS BLOCKADE.

Great Britain Tells How She Will Place Blockade on Germany.

London.—Great Britain made known to the world in a formal proclamation signed in council by the king and issued from Buckingham Palace how she proposes to sever the arteries of sea commerce to and from Germany during the period of the war.

The term "blockade" is not used and no prohibited area is defined. Nevertheless, the text of the order makes plain England's purpose to prevent commodities of any kind from reaching or leaving Germany during the war.

The last clause of the proclamation contains the proposal most interesting to neutrals. This is a flat agreement to lift the "blockade" in case any nation will certify that the ships flying its flag shall not carry goods to Germany or goods originating therein or goods belonging to the subjects of the German empire.

It is notable that the order declares no intention to capture ships proceeding to and from the countries of Germany's allies Austria and Turkey the reason being no doubt that the measure is avowedly a reprisal against Germany's submarine warfare. However, a cordon of ships will be maintained to shut off the commerce of German ports and regulate trade in the war zone, although ships voyaging eastward across the Atlantic, will, it is expected, be seized before they reach the North Sea.

27,000 Japs. Embark For China.

London.—The Daily Telegraph's Peking correspondent says he is able to assert on reliable information that 27,000 Japanese troops have embarked for China and that China is about to appeal to Great Britain.

Detained German Vessel.

Newport News, Va.—According to testimony given the Washington Government, Charles Frank, one of the members of the crew of the American ship William P. Frye, which was sunk by the German converted cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich is being held aboard the German warship in German uniform against his will. The circumstances of the case as communicated to Washington were revealed here by other members of the crew of the Frye who remain in Newport News.



JAMES A. BARR
James A. Barr is director of conventions for the Panama-Pacific exposition. He is a Kentuckian by birth and for many years has been an educator in California, resigning the superintendency of the Stockton City schools to undertake his exposition work.

TELLS WHY HE SANK SHIP

REPLY NOT MADE PUBLIC BUT WILL CLAIM CARGO WAS CONTRABAND.

It is His Intention Says Commander to Return as Soon as He Thinks Repairs Are Completed.

Newport News, Va.—Commander Thierichsen of the converted cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich, which went into drydock for repairs, submitted two statements in German to Collector of Customs Hamilton of this port. One stated his reason for sinking in South Atlantic waters January 28 last the American sailing ship William P. Frye and with her cargo of 5,200 tons of wheat consigned to Queenstown. The other related to the length of time that will be required to repair his ship.

Collector Hamilton announced that he regarded the answers of the German commander as state papers and that he would forward them to Washington. It was learned, however, that the commander of the German ship frankly has stated to American Government officials that he sunk the American ship Frye because he regarded her cargo as contraband of war.

In the communication relating to the repairs necessary on the Eitel Friedrich, it was believed that the German commander stated that the vessel could be made seaworthy within a few days or a week at most. Whether he made the statement that he wished to depart as soon as American naval officers could pass on repairs that are to be made was not disclosed. The German commander previously made it clear, however, that it was not his intention to intern his ship.

As to the conditions of Eitel Friedrich it was reported that whereas she had been making 18 knots an hour at the beginning of her historic wrecking career of merchant belligerents in two oceans, she scarcely dared make 12 when she reached American waters.

After the German cruiser went into drydock she discharged the crews of British and Russian ships she had sunk, having released the American crew. The French crews left on the Old Dominion Line for New York. A few Russians went with them. The British crews plan to return to England on British ships laden with horses from this port.

Commander Thierichsen assured officers here that neither he, officers nor men of the Eitel Friedrich would set foot on American soil except on official business. He made this statement to Collector Hamilton after stating that it was his intention not to intern his ship.

British Victorious in France.

London.—The arrival of the German auxiliary cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich at Newport News, removing for a time at least another menace to British shipping and the success of British troops in the region of La Bassee claim attention in the British Isles. Whether the Prinz Eitel will be interned or again, will set out for the high seas, it is considered that her career as an armed cruiser must come to an end, for should she be allowed to sail, it is believed Allied cruisers on the watch will account for her.

ASK FOR ECONOMY IN APPROPRIATIONS

MR. GILLETT CRITICISES DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS FOR SPENDING SO MUCH MONEY.

ANOTHER PLAN IS NEEDED

Mr. Fitzgerald Says Tariff is Not to Blame For Shirking Income But Economy is Needed.

Washington.—Statements issued by Chairman Fitzgerald of the house appropriations committee, and Representative Gillett, ranking Republican member, agreed that appropriations of the last session of congress totalled \$1,115,121,409; that contracts involving additional appropriations of \$37,400,000 were authorized and that a treasury deficit is probable.

Chairman Fitzgerald's statement did not give the total appropriations for the entire Sixty-third Congress. Mr. Gillett placed it at \$2,231,000,000 greater than that of the Sixty-second congress and \$177,000,000 more than the last Republican congress appropriated.

Mr. Fitzgerald estimated that should the condition of the treasury continue as at present until June 30, the total deficit would be \$133,000,000 offset, however, by income tax collections estimated at \$80,000,000.

Mr. Gillett asserted that the treasury has not been so empty since the Cleveland administration.

Chairman Fitzgerald declared the tariff in no way was responsible and that until the outbreak of war the new law had proved an effective revenue producer. Mr. Gillett did not agree with that.

Mr. Fitzgerald said the effect of the war was world-wide and that as it goes on reduction of customs, imports and their revenue will continue. At some length he discussed the need of economy.

"The finances of the Federal government must be readjusted," said he. "No more important problem will confront Congress when it reassembles."

NEW DANGER SITUATIONS ARISE

Anarchy Reigns at Manzanillo—But Little Food.

Washington.—While conditions in Mexico City have improved with the food and water supply replenished and the Capital placed in order by the Villa-Zapata government, situations fraught with difficulties for the United States government have arisen at Progreso, the East coast port, and at Manzanillo, on the Pacific. The American consul at Manzanillo reports a condition of anarchy there. Foreigners are apprehensive, he declares, and the food supply is decreasing, while Villa-Zapata troops are investing the town's approaches. Admiral Howard, commanding the Pacific fleet, is reported ready to take foreigners away if conditions do not improve.

Progreso, the port from which virtually all the sisal hemp used for American binding twine is shipped, has been ordered closed to foreign commerce by General Carranza.

Coal Steamer Torpedoed.

Bordeaux, via Paris.—The steamer Auguste Consell from Cardiff for Rouen with a coal cargo, was torpedoed by a submarine off the Start Point near the southern extremity of Devon, England. The crew of 28 men is reported to have been saved by a Danish steamer and taken to Falmouth.

Big Fire at Norfolk.

Norfolk, Va.—A mammoth lumber shed, the machinery building and about 2,000,000 feet of lumber were destroyed by fire at the plant of the Atlantic Coast Lumber Corporation at Money Point, three miles outside the city limits.

Reward for Sinking Transport.

Leipzig, via London.—A Leipzig citizen has offered a second reward of \$750 to the crew of the German submarine which sinks a British troop transport. The first gift of a similar nature already has been distributed.

No Reply From Commander.

Newport News, Va.—Port authorities are awaiting instructions from Washington regarding representations to be made to Commander Thierichsen of the German converted cruiser Prinz Eitel, concerning the detention of Charles Frank and Robert Rogge, members of the crew of the American sailing ship William P. Frye sunk January 28. Sworn statements that one of these men is being detained against his will have been made to the Collector of the Customs by other members of the Frye's crew.



JUDGE ED B. ALMON
Judge Ed B. Almon succeeds the late William Richardson as representative from the Eighth Alabama district. His hobbies are rural credits and national aid to good roads.

GERMAN CRUISER IN PORT

PRINZ EITEL FRIEDRICH, AFTER SCOURING OCEANS ENTERS PORT.

Cruiser Carried 300 Prisoners: Americans, British, French and Russians—A Problem.

Newport News, Va.—The German auxiliary cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich, after a marine wrecking scouring of Pacific and Atlantic Oceans which culminated in the sinking of an American sailing ship in the South Atlantic Ocean January 28 last limped into this port and anchored for supplies and repairs. She brought with her rescued crews and passengers of American, British, French and Russian ships and lies at anchor in Hampton Roads proud of her trophies of war that crunch the bottom of the sea but in a state of mechanical exhausting from the strain of a 5,200-mile journey.

The German cruiser began her scouting for the ships of the enemies of the Fatherland at Tsing Tsau, China, last November under mastership of Commander Thierichsen and put into this historic port with the admitted sinking of eight merchant ships, three British, three French, one Russian and one American. The sinking of the American ship, the William P. Frye, a sailing vessel bound from Seattle to Queenstown with 55,000 tons of wheat, most concerned American port officials here and the Washington Government.

H. H. Kiehne of Baltimore is the master of the American ship and after leaving the Eitel Friedrich with Customs Collector Hamilton he told a dramatic story of his experience. With him were his wife and two children.

"Despite my protestations that I was the American master of an American ship, the German cruiser Eitel Friedrich sank the William P. Frye on the morning of January 28, blowing a gaping hole through her vitals with a charge of dynamite," said Captain Kiehne.

When the German cruiser entered this port all souls on board were in good humor and admitted that they had been well cared for. The cruiser might well have been flying many flags because she had on board Germans, Frenchmen, Russians, Englishmen, Irishmen, North Americans, South Americans, Portuguese, Chinese, and others, all except the ship's officers and crew being captives of vessels which the cruiser had captured and sunk in the waters of the Pacific and the Atlantic. There were men, women, children and a litter of puppies, bora while the ship was en voyage. The captives had been allowed to bring their belongings on board and these were piled on the decks here and there while emigrant women squatted around, some with infant children in their arms.

Collector Hamilton has requested the commander of the German vessel not to use his wireless apparatus while in port. Collector Hamilton will permit to be landed and delivered to the port authorities to be forwarded to New York some hundred and fifty sacks of mail taken from the steamer Florida, when it was bound from Havre to South American ports.

BIGGEST BATTLE OF WAR IN PROGRESS

GERMANS MAKING DESPERATE DRIVE AGAINST RUSSIANS IN NORTH POLAND.

MORE THAN A MILLION MEN

Half a Million Men Engaged on Each Side in Big Battle.—British Attacking in West.

London.—Just as the French attacked the Germans in the West when Field Marshal von Hindenburg made his drive from East Prussia last month, so the British Army operating in Flanders has undertaken the task of relieving pressure on its Russian ally, now that the Russians again are being attacked in North Poland. This is part of the general plan of the Allied generals. When one is attacked the other attacks to compel the Germans and Austrians to keep strong forces at every point and endeavor to prevent them from sending new troops where they could do the most good.

The Germans now are attempting to crush the Russians. For this purpose they are reported to have an army estimated at nearly a half million men marching along the roads toward Przasnysz. To prevent this army from being strengthened further the British are thrusting at the German line north of La Bassee and besides reporting the capture of the village of Neuve Chappells it is asserted that they have advanced beyond that town.

The battle taking place in the East, experts say, is the biggest pitched battle of the war, no less than a million men being engaged. The Germans in their official report claim an advance, while Petrograd considers it likely that the Russians will have to fall back beyond Przasnysz as they did last month, before making a stand. It probably will be days before a definite result is attained in this battle.

Meanwhile another German army has appeared on the Pilica River front, south of the Vistula, probably, military observers say, with the idea of inducing Grand Duke Nicholas to withdraw men from the North, where the real blow is being struck.

Farther south, along the foothills of the Carpathians, fighting between the Austrians and Russians continues in wintry weather. Each side claims the other is doing the attacking but it is believed here, that as the Austrians initiated this battle, they probably are still the aggressors.

MURDER PROMINENT AMERICAN

Stars and Stripes Float Over Man Zapata Forces Kill

Washington.—John B. McManus, a prominent American in Mexico, was shot and killed in his home by Zapata troops as they were occupying the Mexican capital after evacuation by Gen. Obregon's Carranza forces.

Official dispatches from the Brazilian minister in Mexico City reporting the affair to the state department, say the American flag was floating over McManus' house and that his doors had been closed and sealed by the Brazilian consul. The Brazilian minister's dispatch indicated that the killing may have been one of revenge, for it was charged that when Zapata troops recently occupied the capital McManus had killed three of their number.

The fact that the American flag had been hoisted over the house and the doors had been sealed by the consul of a neutral power was taken by the officials here to indicate that either McManus felt that he was in danger or that all foreigners were fearful of their safety with the entry of the Zapata troops and took steps for protection. The killing of the American is described in the official dispatches as having caused great emotion in the foreign colony. McManus originally was from Chicago.

Japan Modifies Demand

Pekin.—Japan has definitely modified her attitude toward China in connection with her demands presented after occupation by Japan of the German concession of Kiaochow.

Make Gasoline and Dyestuffs

Washington.—Secretary Lane announced after the Cabinet meeting that he had entered into a contract with private interests to build a \$250,000 plant to house the invention of Dr. Walter G. Rittman of the Bureau of Mines, a process for the manufacture of gasoline, dyestuffs and explosives.

Propose Prohibition in Alaska

Juneau, Alaska.—A bill providing for prohibition throughout Alaska was introduced in the lower house of the territorial legislature.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Movements Due and Their Local Effects For Cotton States March 21-28, 1915.

National Weather Journal.

Sunday, March 21.—The week will open with moderately warm temperatures in the South and with increasing cloudiness, especially in Western and Middle Belt.

Monday, March 22; Tuesday, March 23; Wednesday, March 24.—Cool wave is due to over-spread the Western Cotton Belt Monday, accompanied by snow well into Texas and by rain in the remainder of Western and Middle Belt, bringing light freezing temperatures over the Northern half of Texas, with frosty temperatures nearly to the Texas Coast, but only moderate falls of temperature elsewhere in the South. It is not expected to clear in Texas, so that actual frosts should be generally avoided.

Thursday March 25 to Sunday, March 28.—General rains in the South Wednesday and Thursday will precede cool wave, which will clear the weather in Western Cotton Belt by Friday and in the remainder of the South by Saturday. Frosts are indicated for this movement as far South as Houston, Texas and in the Northern halves of the other Gulf States, except Florida, where no frosts are probable from it.

MRS. BOYLIN SALES AGENT

Wadesboro Woman Will Sell Products of Girl's Canning Clubs—To Visit Clubs.

Wadesboro.—Mrs. Jane C. McKimmon, state demonstration agent, has appointed Mrs. J. G. Boylin of Wadesboro sales agent for the products canned by the girls of North Carolina. It is her plan to visit all of the schools of the state and the public institutions to get contracts for next year's supply. Meredith College, Raleigh; the State Normal, Greensboro; Albemarle Normal, Albemarle; Horner's School, Charlotte, A. & M. College, Fossifern, Hendersonville, have given satisfactory answers to request to hold off contracts until Mrs. Boylin can visit them; also the Deaf and Dumb school at Morganton, the Insane Hospital, of Raleigh; the School for Feeble-Minded, at Kinston, and the Insane Hospital at Morganton, are ready to give contracts for the 4 H brand.

The state will pay the actual traveling expenses of the sales agent, but each county is expected to make an appropriation to cover the expense account of selling these products. The counties that make appropriations will receive a larger pro rata share of sales.

In some instances tuition and board will be given for products. Already Rev. Geo. Atkinson has given through Mrs. Boylin to a woman belonging to the Tomato Club, a barrel of sugar to be made into preserves, the sale of which will go for the expense of her son at Rocky River Military School.

Turn Cows on Cotton.

Kinston.—At Marltown, in Pitt county, where the price for picking cotton, much of which remains in the fields, is a dollar the 100 pounds, the planters are beginning to turn their cows into the fields rather than pay that high price for labor.

MARKET REPORTS.

Cotton, Cotton Seed and Meal Prices in the Markets of North Carolina For the Past Week.

As reported to the Division of Markets, North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station and Department of Agriculture, Raleigh.

Town	Price of middling cotton.	Price of cotton seed per bushel	Cash price of cotton seed per ton.	Price of meal for 100 lbs of seed.
North Eastern North Carolina				
Ahoke	6-7 1/2	40-42	32.00	1800
Farmville	7-7 1/2	40-42	32.00	1800
Kelford	7-7 1/2	35-45	30.00	1800
New Bern	7 1/2-7 3/4	39-42	30.00	1800
Vanceboro	7 1/2-7 3/4	40-43	31.00	2000
Washington	7 1/2	43 1/2	30.00	2000
Wilmington	5-5 1/2	32-35	21.00	1600
Windsor	7 1/2	40-42	30.00	1800
Winterville	7 1/2-7 3/4	40-42	30.00	1800
South Eastern North Carolina				
Fayetteville	5 1/2-5 3/4	24-27 1/2	25.00	1300
Jacksonville	5 1/2-5 3/4	33-35	32.00	1400
Maxton	7 1/2-7 3/4	31-33	29.00	1800
North Central North Carolina				
Arlene	7 1/2	42	30.00	2000
Battleboro	7 1/2	40-45	32.00	2000
Enfield	7 1/2-7 3/4	30-42 1/2	31.00	2000
Greensboro	7 1/2-7 3/4	38-40	30.00	2000
Kenly	7 1/2-7 3/4	38-40	30.00	2000
Louisburg	7 1/2	40	30.00	2000
Pittsboro	7 1/2	36-45	30.00	2000
Raleigh	7 1/2-7 3/4	38	28.00	2000
Scotland Neck	7 1/2-7 3/4	33-40	32.00	1700
Selma	7 1/2-7 3/4	27 1/2-40	30.00	2000
South Central North Carolina				
Charlotte	7 1/2-8	43-53	30.00	2000
Cleveland	7 1/2-8	36-43	30.00	1900