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POLK COUNTY NEWS

Wonderful Polk County, "In The Land of The Sky", Offers Unusual Opportunities for Home Seekers. Mountain Spring Water. Magnificent Scenery.

VOL. XXI NO. 20.

TRYON, POLK COUNTY, N. C. FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1915.

ESTABLISHED MAY, 1894.

MUST RECOGNIZE ONE OF FACTIONS

RECOGNITION OF A MEXICAN GOVERNMENT IS NEXT STEP SAY DIPLOMATS.

CHANCES FAVOR CARRANZA

Any Provisional President With Necessary Material and Moral Capacity to Maintain Civil Laws.

New York.—Secretary Lansing, representing the United States Government, and the diplomatic representatives of Brazil, Chile, Argentine, Bolivia, Uruguay and Guatemala, resolved at their meeting here that the time had come for the extension of formal recognition to a government in Mexico.

In three weeks another meeting of the conference will be held in Washington, at which a decision is to be reached as to the elements upon which the recognition should be conferred. A formal statement issued by the conference declared that inasmuch as the factions themselves had failed to come to an agreement, recognition would be accorded to the de facto authorities possessing the "material and moral capacity necessary to protect the lives and property of Nationals and foreigners." Each of the several governments, it was announced, would itself "judge such capacity, and recognition will likewise be extended by each government separately at such time as it may deem proper."

Unless the military situation in Mexico takes a decided turn within the next three weeks in favor of General Villa who has concentrated his forces for battle with General Obdient at Torreon, most of the conferees were of the opinion that the Carranza government would logically be entitled to recognition. The several governments will endeavor to learn, however, not only what territory each faction controls but what promise of stability the factions give that aspire to recognition. To determine exactly what is the status of the different factions the several governments will examine the situation each in its own way. The United States will seek to form its judgment through long and exhaustive reports from its consuls supplemented by personal conferences in Washington between Secretary Lansing and representatives of all groups and elements.

UNDERWRITE BIG LOAN.

Syndicate Will Receive Commission Also Securities.

New York.—The proposed mammoth credit loan to Great Britain and France it was reported is to be underwritten by a large syndicate of American financiers and bankers who are to receive a commission for their services. The securities offered, it was said, will be British and French five per cent government bonds, and the price to the investor is to be par. The amount of the loan it was reported is as yet undetermined but will be between \$600,000,000 and \$800,000,000.

The underwriting syndicate, it was reported, will be the largest of its kind ever established in the United States and probably will be open to nearly all national banks, trust companies and state banks that may care to participate.

Elimination of the reported difference in opinion between American financiers and members of the Anglo-French Commission over the manner of placing the loan apparently has resulted in a victory for the American financiers. Previous reports were to the effect that the commission's views were that the loan should be placed by subscription and that there should be no underwriting syndicate.

Confederate Naval Monument. Washington.—A Confederate naval monument to cost not more than \$150,000 is proposed in the annual report of the Vicksburg National Military Park Commission just submitted to the Secretary of War.

Decisive Battle Near Vilna. London.—The Germans have occupied Vilna, and by a wide sweeping movement to the north, have succeeded in almost if not entirely surrounding a portion of the Russian army fighting in the railway triangle between Vilna, Lida and Vileika. The Russian forces in this district either must fight their way out eastward or retire in a westerly direction, for the only railway left entirely in their hands is that which runs from Vilna to Lida, and thence to Baranovitch.

MRS. G. H. MATHIS



Mrs. G. H. Mathis is a wealthy planter of Gadsden, Ala., who is devoting most of her time to educating southern farmers in the matter of diversification of crops. In this she acts as the field agent of the Alabama Bankers' association.

ENGLAND GETS CARGOES

PRIZE COURT DECIDES AGAINST AMERICAN OWNERS OF SEIZED PRODUCTS.

American Owners Will Carry Case to Navy Council and Expect to Win They Say.

London.—Virtually all of the American meat aboard the seized Norwegian steamers Kim, Alfred Nobel, Bjernstjerne Bjornsen and Fridland was condemned by the British prize court and declared forfeited to the Crown. The cargoes were valued at about \$15,000,000. A small part was released to claimants.

The case has been pending for several months. The steamships were seized last November, and efforts by the American owners to obtain an early trial failed. The hearing began in June and closed last month.

The court said it was plain these ships were carrying towards Copenhagen, when seized, more than 13 times the amount of goods which under normal circumstances would have been taken to that port. The fact that gave practical and overwhelming assurance that the goods were intended to find their way to Germany. One circumstance throwing light on the real destination of the goods, the court said, was that the exportation of lard by one American company alone to Copenhagen in three weeks after the outbreak of the war was 20 times more than in periods of peace.

The decision aroused intense interest among all the representatives of American packing firms here as well as those immediately involved, as no American meat products have been shipped to European neutrals since last May, and the unfavorable result of the packers' case is likely to cause further stoppage of this trade.

HESPERIAN NOTE RECEIVED.

State Department Contemplates No Action at Present Time.

Washington.—Germany's note informing the United States that there is no reason to believe the liner Hesperian was sunk by a submarine has reached the state department.

Secretary Lansing said no action in the case was contemplated at this time. There is no evidence before the department to prove whether the liner was attacked or struck by a mine.

The German note declares all reports received from submarine commanders indicate that there was no submarine in the vicinity when the explosion which wrecked the Hesperian occurred, and expresses belief that the vessel was blown up by a mine, in view of the nature of the explosion and the fact that it was well forward.

Although dispatches from London and Queenstown at the time stated that the Hesperian had been torpedoed, the explosion occurred when the vessel was about a hundred miles outside of the zone in which German submarines usually operate, and so far as is known here nobody on board has claimed to have seen a submarine or torpedo.

SHIPS TO VISIT CHARLESTON

Secretary Daniels Promises Great Attraction For the Southern Commercial Congress.

Washington.—Secretary Josephus Daniels promised a delegation of Charleston business men that he would have a division of the Atlantic fleet stop at Charleston during the annual convention of the Southern Commercial congress which meets at Charleston December 13 to 16.

The delegation was headed by Senator Smith. Other members of the party were: Mayor John P. Grace, Julius D. Koster, P. H. Gadsden, D. L. Sinkler, B. F. McLeod and R. G. Khett, all of Charleston.

The delegation also paid a visit to Secretary McAdoo and invited him to the congress.

Secretary Daniels was the guest of honor at a luncheon given the delegation at the University club by the Commercial congress.

Columbia Car Strike Ends.

Columbia.—After one week's idleness the full service of Columbia's street cars was started up again, when carmen and officials reached a complete and satisfactory agreement. The agreement closes the second strike on the street railway system since its organization. Leaders of both sides say that the agreement would prevent strikes in the future, as difficulties will be submitted to arbitration.

The dismissal of J. W. Brunswick and C. H. McKissick, conductors, several days ago precipitated the strike. The union contended that evidence furnished by inspectors was not sufficient to cause the discharge of the board of directors, and the action of the general manager in discharging the men was there sustained, although the directors reinstated two men who had been suspended because of differences with an inspector.

Honor Kings Mountain Hero.

Gaffney.—The Daughters of the Revolution of Gaffney have for some time been thinking of erecting a monument to the memory of Col. James Williams, who commanded the South Carolina troops at the battle of King's Mountain, and to this end the regent of the chapter, Mrs. M. P. Pierson, has appointed a committee to confer with the city authorities and select a site for the monument. Col. Williams was morally wounded at the battle of King's Mountain and died on a plantation in the Buffalo section of Cherokee county.

Death Claims Coker President.

Hartsville.—The Rev. Howard Lee Jones, D. D., president of Coker college, died in a hospital at Florence. The well known educator had been in ill health for several months and had sought rest and treatment away from home, hoping to recover before the beginning of the new college session on September 23. Following a decline a few days ago he was taken to a hospital in Florence, but his frail constitution could not respond.

Engineer Baer Hurt.

Abbeville.—Engineer C. D. Baer of the Seaboard was seriously injured recently at Berkeley, Ga., being struck on the head by a mail crane. Mr. Baer was carried to the Athens hospital. He has been with the Seaboard for a number of years, making Abbeville his home for the past 10 years.

Dates For Chester Fair.

Chester.—The Chester County Fair association has selected October 20, 21 and 22 as the dates for the annual county fair, and the indications are ready point to the biggest and best in the history of the county.

WEATHER FORECAST.

South Atlantic and East Gulf States.—Generally fair weather and moderate temperatures throughout the week.

MARKET REPORT.

Prices paid for cotton, cotton seed, corn, wheat, oats, peas, etc., on the different markets in South Carolina during the past week:

Abbeville—Cotton, 10 1/2c; corn, \$1 bu; wheat, \$1.25 bu; oats, 6c bu; rye, \$1.50 bu; butter, 25c lb; eggs, 20c doz. Allendale—Cotton, 15c; corn, 95c bu; oats, 80c bu; rye, \$1.25 bu; peas, \$1.25 bu; butter, 30c lb; eggs, 20c doz. Belton—Cotton, 10c; corn, \$1 bu; wheat, \$1.25 bu; oats, 85c bu; rye, \$1.40 bu; peas, \$1.25 bu; butter, 25c lb; eggs, 20c doz. Bamberg—Corn, \$1 bu; wheat, 1.20 bu; oats, 65c bu; butter, 25c lb; eggs, 20c doz. Camden—Cotton, 8 1/2c. Clinton—Butter, 30c lb; eggs, 30c doz. Charleston—Cotton, 10c; corn, 1.10 bu; wheat, \$1.10 bu; oats, 45c bu; rye, \$1.25 bu; butter, 30c lb; eggs, 21c doz. Cheraw—Cotton, 9 1/2c. Conway—Butter, 35c lb; eggs, 15c doz. Chester—Cotton, 10 1/4c. Chesterfield—Corn, \$1 bu; wheat, 1.25 bu; oats, 65c bu; rye, \$1.20 bu.

COTTON PROBLEM IS UP TO BANKERS

PRESIDENT WILSON PLACES SITUATION SQUARELY UP TO SOUTHERN BANKERS.

TUMULTY ANSWERS LETTER

McLaurin Charges That Banks Are Making Financing of the Crop as Difficult as Possible.

Columbia.—"The president feels that the whole maintenance of the cotton situation depends directly and immediately upon the southern bankers and they have themselves to blame if it does not come out satisfactorily," says J. P. Tumulty, secretary to President Wilson, in a letter to John L. McLaurin, state warehouse commissioner.

"The president," says the letter, "has received your letter of September 15 and has been greatly interested in reading it. He asks me to suggest that you emphasize the letter that he wrote to Mr. Harding, and which Mr. Harding read in his speech at Birmingham, Ala."

On September 15 Mr. McLaurin sent the following letter in part to President Wilson:

"You were so generous in the letter read by Mr. Harding in his Birmingham speech that I feel that you should be promptly advised of a situation now pending.

"The quick advance in cotton is due primarily more to that letter and the statements of Messrs. McAdoo and Harding than to the admitted short crop. This will later sustain prices, if there is no combination of moneyed interests to force cotton on the market.

"Last spring the New York banks freely loaned 7 cents per pound when the market price was much lower than now. The same banks are refusing to loan over 6 cents. This is a very short crop, and at 10 cents a pound will not bring what the last crop did to the producers.

"The banks of the south are, as a rule, opposed to lowering the interest rate. They are afraid since your letter to come out openly and are working through the New York banks.

"You will observe that the basis of the trouble is with the Southern, not the New York, banks. I do not wish to stir strife and incite hatred among our people by letting it be known what some of our large banks are doing. I am to address a mass meeting of the farmers of Georgia on the 21st in Atlanta, where this matter will be under discussion and desire to be as conservative as possible.

"To some extent I have the ear of the cotton planters and feel the responsibility. If you will advise me, marking your letter 'personal,' I promise not to use what you say except for my personal guidance. . . . While we made this crop at less cost than the 1914 crop, it is so short that at 12 cents we will barely break even.

"It is a shortsighted policy, because this crop will be about 5,500,000 bales under 1914, and if it does not show a profit to the producers, the 1916 crop will be curtailed to where manufacturers will not have the raw material to supply their spindles. You can see the far-reaching effect on finances as well as labor.

Sell Cotton Mill Again.

Spartanburg.—The Enoree Manufacturing company will be offered for sale again on October 4, according to official notice published here. The property was bought two months ago at public sale by J. I. Westervelt and Lewis W. Parker of Greenville for \$200,001. The notice says the property is being sold "at the risk of former defaulting purchasers." It was announced recently that Mr. Westervelt would relinquish his interest in the property to E. Graham of Greenville and only a few days ago a charter was issued to the Melville Manufacturing company which it was stated would take over the Enoree property. It is said that those parties may yet

Lexington Plans Big Fair. Lexington.—"We expect to have the largest and best county fair in the history of the county," said Heber R. Dreher of Selwood, president of the Lexington County Fair association, who was in Lexington for a short while a few days ago. "With cotton selling around 10 cents, which will enable the farmers—or most of them to pay up their obligations and have a little spare change left—there should be a large attendance. The exhibits, I am sure, will be up to the usual high standard for Lexington."

REAR ADMIRAL WINSLOW



Rear Admiral C. M. Winslow has been transferred from the Naval War college at Newport to the command of the Pacific fleet.

FEW BATTLES ON BORDER

FIGHTING ACROSS RIO GRANDE BETWEEN MEXICAN AND U. S. TROOPERS.

Americans Suffer No Casualties.—Reported That Seventeen Mexicans Were Hit.

Brownsville, Tex.—American cavalrymen had two fights with Mexicans across the Rio Grande, one here and one near Donna about 60 miles up the river. In both clashes the American soldiers were fired upon and returned the fire without themselves suffering any casualties.

Then American cavalrymen in the Donna fight, which lasted two hours and a half, reported they were fired upon by about 200 Mexicans and believed that they had hit 17 Mexicans.

Twenty American cavalrymen fought on the outskirts of Brownsville for half an hour with Mexicans on the opposite bank of the river. After the fight one Carranza soldier was taken to Matamoros, probably fatally wounded, but Carranza officers denied emphatically that any of their men joined in the battle.

Col. A. P. Blocksom, American commander at Fort Brown here, reported to Major General Funston at San Antonio that the Mexicans started the firing near Brownsville.

Immediately after the battle a small mob formed in Matamoros, about the headquarters of Gen. E. P. Nafarrete, Carranza commander, shouting: "Give us guns."

They had heard the rifle shots and were angered by reports that their people had been fired upon. General Nafarrete refused their demands. He sent his chief of staff, Col. P. A. Chapa, to investigate and Colonel took United States Consul Jesse H. Johnson with him to the Mexican side of the battleground.

Mr. Johnson found some evidence to support the Mexican soldiers' claim that they were not implicated in the fight, but after coming to Brownsville to learn the American version, Mr. Johnson said he was convinced that Colonel Chapa had not yet been put in possession of all the facts.

The trouble at Brownsville began when Juan Diego, a Mexican resident of Brownsville, reported to Colonel Blocksom that for two or three days snipers on the Mexican side had been shooting into his ranch on the river front.

FINDS LAND HE SOUGHT.

Stefansson, Thought Possibly to Have Been Lost, Heard From.

Nome, Alaska.—Villijalmur Stefansson, chief of the Canadian Government Arctic exploring and surveying expedition that left Victoria, B. C., in June, 1913, and who set out afoot over the ice with two companies from the shores of northeastern Alaska in March, 1914, to seek new land in uncharted seas, did not go to his death, as the world had begun to fear, but found the new land and the only hardships endured were those of short rations.

The power schooner Ruby arrived from Herschel Island with dispatches from Stefansson to the Canadian Government in which he omits reference to the perils of the journey on the ice and gives space to the scientific results achieved.

Stefansson is wintering at Banks Land, where he has a large power schooner and a small one. He plans to explore the new territory during the winter and next summer.

J. F. J. ARCHIBALD DENIES SEGRECY

SAYS HE DID NOT CONTRIVE TO BREAK NEUTRALITY LAWS OF COUNTRY.

SEES LAWYER AS FIRST STEP

The Letter Was Given Him at the Pier.—Knew Nothing of Its Contents.—Matter of Friendship.

New York.—James F. J. Archibald, the American correspondent, who carried a message from Dr. Constantin T. Dumba, Austro-Hungarian Ambassador at Washington, addressed to Baron von Burian, Austrian Foreign Minister, which led to a request from the United States for the Ambassador's recall, issued a statement here, in which he denied that he had connived in any way to break the neutrality laws of the United States or was an official dispatch-bearer.

The request for Doctor Dumba's recall was made after the Ambassador's letter was seized by British authorities when Archibald was intercepted at Falmouth.

On his return here, aboard the steamship Rotterdam, Archibald consulted his lawyer, acquainted himself, as he explained, "with what had been said in this country," and then issued a formal statement.

"Doctor Dumba's letter," said Archibald, "was given to me most openly at the steamer's gang plank just before sailing. Hundreds of persons were about and there was not the slightest suggestion of secrecy. Of its contents, I had absolutely no knowledge. I supposed of course that it simply referred to my work. I feel that the very open manner in which the letter was given me shows that Doctor Dumba had no intention of using me or my passport as a shield for the transmission of any improper letters.

"I did not consciously break either the spirit or the letter of my passport or of any law, but merely did what every traveler crossing the ocean does, by carrying notes or small packages as an accommodation to friends, just as I did when I returned from Germany last year, when I carried several letters and official dispatches to our state department for Ambassador Gerard and packages for Mrs. Gerard and others. Of course, in doing this for Ambassador and Mrs. Gerard I did it simply at a matter of friendship, precisely as I carried the letters in this case."

VILLA PROMISES PROTECTION.

Considerable Fighting is Reported Around Mexico City.

Washington.—General Villa authorized his Washington agent, Enrique C. Llorente to issue a statement promising protection to Americans and other foreigners in Mexican territory controlled by him. There have been reports that foreigners would suffer as a result of the outcome of the Pan-American conference at New York forecasting recognition of Carranza and the recent renewed warning to Americans to leave the fighting zones of northern Mexico.

Advices to the state department said that the evacuation of Torreon by the Villa forces is completed as of Sept. 19.

A state department statement summarizing dispatches said:

"The department is informed that for about two weeks there has been considerable fighting around the City of Mexico. The Carranzista garrison at Chalco, a suburb of Mexico City, is reported to have been almost wiped out."

Dead of the F-4.

San Francisco.—The United States Naval station ship Supply arrived from Honolulu, T. H., with the bodies of 13 men from the submarine F-4 on board.

Four of the bodies which had been identified were brought in separate caskets. The dismembered bodies of nine others were brought in four caskets.

Rockefeller Visits Mines.

Trinidad.—John D. Rockefeller, Jr., visited the scene of the Ludlow battle and the mining companies of Berwind and Tabasco on his first day's inspection tour of the properties of the Colorado Fuel & Iron Co. After talking freely with the miners, he went into their homes, questioning their wives about working and living conditions and making suggestions for improvements. For luncheon Mr. Rockefeller stopped at the miners' boarding house at Berwind.