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# Richmond Times Dispatch

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THE TIMES-DISPATCH

65th YEAR VOLUME 52 NUMBER 52 RICHMOND, VA., SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1915. FIFTY PAGES. WEATHER—FAIR PRICE FIVE CENTS

## CHAMBLISS AND WILLIAMS CONFESS

Express Messengers Admit They Broke Open Safe on Florida Flyer.

## HAD LEFT KEYS AT HOME

Concocted Story of Robbery After Pushing Wrecked Safe From Car Door.

A. Y. Chambliss and M. M. Williams confessed early yesterday afternoon that it was they who on Thursday night broke open the safe and threw it from an express car attached to the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company's Florida Flyer while the train was running between Alexandria and Fredericksburg. Both messengers made signed confessions.

Chambliss said that he had forgotten his keys, and that he broke open the safe in order to get out his supplies. Williams, who was returning home "deadhead," repeated this story, and added that Chambliss told him he had forgotten his keys and asked him (Williams) to get his. Williams had but ten minutes to spare before the train left Washington, and got the wrong keys.

## MESSENGER SPLIT SAFE OPEN WITH EMERGENCY AX

After the train left Alexandria, and when it was but a short distance north of Fredericksburg, Chambliss, according to his confession, split the safe open with the emergency ax carried in the car, and then dumped the safe from the side door. He thinks that the safe dropped near the brink of the river, and it is said that the little iron box now rests at the bottom of Aquia Creek, near the scene of the famous Morganfield robbery in 1894.

## CHAMBLISS MAKES SIGNED CONFESSION

Chambliss's confession follows: "I had forgotten my keys, and didn't know any other way to get in my safe to get my supplies, such as stamps, ink pad, etc. to make the run with, so I just decided I would open the safe up with the ax and get them out, which I did. I then threw the safe out just this side of Fredericksburg while the train was crossing a bridge. I think the safe dropped near the edge of the river. I told him (Williams) that we might as well say we were held up and robbed, so we decided to do that. The confession was signed by me, and my conscience was hurting me then, and I gave the gun to Williams and told him to keep it. There was no object except to get my supplies out of the safe."

## WILLIAMS TELLS STORY IN DETAIL

Williams's story is as follows: "I had gone over to the restaurant to get something to eat. I was getting it for Chambliss, and didn't get anything for myself. While I was there he came over and stated that he had forgotten his keys, and asked me to go over and get them. So I went to the room, and, as I only had ten minutes, in my hurry I got the wrong keys. I was supposed to be off duty, and I didn't discover it until after the train started, and he wanted to unlock his safe and get his supplies out, and couldn't do it. Well, he studied out how he could get his supplies, and finally took the ax and tried to split the lock and couldn't do that. So I put the safe on one side and cut it open and got his supplies out, and didn't know what to do with the safe. I knew it was wrong to cut the safe open just to get his supplies, so he threw the safe out."

"Before we got to Richmond I went to sleep, and I think he did also. But, of course, we had been talking about what he was going to say as to what he did with the safe. He didn't know, but I knew he was doing wrong, and I told you what I am going to say. I will say that we were held up by robbers. And then I said: 'I wouldn't do it,' and he said he was going to do it all right, and wanted me to vouch for it. I asked him a couple of times, and really didn't know he was going to do it, but when we got to Richmond he went ahead and told it. I didn't think at first he was going to be anything but a talker, but he got both of us into a scrape right there."

## INDIAN LEADER DEAD

Hon. Gopal Krishna Gokhale Devoted to Cause of Education.  
BOMBAY, February 20 (via London).—Hon. Gopal Krishna Gokhale, an Indian leader, who was president of the India Congress in 1905, is dead here. For twenty years he had devoted himself to the cause of education among his Mahratta countrymen by serving as a professor in Ferguson College. He was forty-nine years old.

## KENNEDY SURRENDERS

Sixth Man Held in Connection With Murder of Oliver.  
LEESBURG, GA., February 20.—Minor Kennedy, a merchant, of Smithville, for whom a warrant had been issued, charging murder in connection with the assassination here on Wednesday night of A. D. Oliver, a banker, to-day surrendered to the county authorities. Thus far six men have been arrested for alleged participation in the crime.

## MARTIN FOR SENATE LEADER

Virginia Senator Expected to Be Choice of Majority.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 20.—When Congress is reorganized, Senator Thomas S. Martin, of Virginia, will be elected floor leader of the Democratic majority, unless plans now being arranged miscarry. Senator John W. Kern, of Indiana, who holds the place now, will be elected president pro tempore of the Senate, succeeding Senator James P. Clarke, of Arkansas, who is slated for defeat because he led the revolt of the seven Democratic Senators against the administration shipping bill.

## Governor Cancels All Engagements

On advice of physicians, Governor Stuart will take several days of complete rest indoors. Following a sudden fainting spell while attending a meeting of the State Board of Education yesterday afternoon, the Governor was examined by Dr. George Ben Johnston last night.

## HOSPITAL CORPS CAPTURED

Surgeons and Nurses at Vilna Made Prisoners by Germans.  
PETROGRAD, February 20 (via London).—Reports to the French hospital here from Vilna, near the East Prussian frontier, tell of the capture by Germans of the Vilna French hospital corps. Except Manager Richard and Dr. Kopp, who were absent from the hospital, the entire corps, including Chief Surgeon Chesson, is said, were taken prisoner.

The corps had been universally commended for its exceptional service. It had been engaged since the beginning of the war in sending flying detachments to the front, and had been almost constantly under German fire. On a previous occasion one doctor and several nurses, while bandaging wounded on the field, were surrounded by German cavalry and ordered to surrender, but a detachment of Cossacks rescued them.

## "DINAH" HAS A SWEETHEART

Only Gorilla in Captivity Weeps When "Little Nemo" Leaves Her Cage.  
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] NEW YORK, February 20.—Dinah, the only gorilla in captivity, who is suffering from locomotor ataxia, will recover, her attending physicians believe to-day, because she has found a sweetheart. The sweetheart is a mongrel dog, who strayed into the Bronx Zoo, and which has been christened "Little Nemo." Dinah weeps every time the dog leaves her cage. The dog, in turn, won't let even the keeper disturb Dinah when she sleeps.

## DR. BLANCO VISITS U. S.

Round of Entertainments Being Arranged for Uruguayan Minister.  
WASHINGTON, February 20.—A round of official entertainments are being arranged by the State Department in honor of Dr. Juan Carlos Blanco, Uruguayan Minister of Public Works, arriving in New York to-day to return the visit of Secretary Root in 1906, and to represent Uruguay at the Panama-Pacific Exposition. Dr. Blanco will come to Washington next week. The State Department will designate a government official to accompany him during his stay in the United States.

## PRIESTS HELD FOR RANSOM

Native Roman Catholic Clergy in Mexico City Are Prisoners.  
WASHINGTON, February 20.—All the native Roman Catholic clergy in Mexico City are being held for a \$500,000 ransom, according to official advices from diplomats in the Mexican capital. The only priests exempted are those of foreign nationality, who have been ordered to leave the country.

Several days ago the State Department was informed that General Oregon, in command of the capital, intended to levy a special tax on Catholic Church property, but it was not understood he had gone to the length of imprisoning priests.

## ARRESTED IN CANAL ZONE

Former Key West Tax Collector Short \$25,000 in His Accounts.  
KEY WEST, FLA., February 20.—Theodore A. Sweeting, former tax collector here, who is wanted in connection with an alleged shortage of about \$25,000 in his accounts, has been arrested in the Panama Canal Zone, according to a cablegram received to-day by Sheriff Jaycock. Sweeting has been missing for several weeks.

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## BOARD ADOPTS NEW HIGH SCHOOL LIST

Action Deferred on Offer of B. F. Johnson Company to Cut Price.

## STUART HAS FAINTING SPELL

Refuses to Yield to Exhaustion From Overwork, and Stays Until Adjournment.

## Governor Cancels All Engagements

On advice of physicians, Governor Stuart will take several days of complete rest indoors. Following a sudden fainting spell while attending a meeting of the State Board of Education yesterday afternoon, the Governor was examined by Dr. George Ben Johnston last night.

Dr. Johnston stated later that he did not consider the Governor's condition as in any way serious or alarming, but that he had overtaxed his strength, and had consented on advice of physicians to take a complete rest before the General Assembly again convenes.

It was recalled that the Governor has been at his office several nights during the past week until midnight or later.

The State Board of Education adjourned late yesterday afternoon until February 26, after adopting the greater part of the list of textbooks to be used in the high schools for the next four years.

No action was taken on the offer submitted by the B. F. Johnson Publishing Company to sell textbooks to the State at a reduction of 10 per cent from the prices quoted by that firm last April, provided the entire Johnson list is adopted. Some of the members of the board were much impressed by the proposal. Others would reject it as undesirable. It was finally decided to refer the matter to a subcommittee, consisting of Governor Stuart, Attorney-General Pollard and Superintendent Frank T. West, of the Louisa schools. The committee is instructed to consult further with the Johnson company, with reference to terms of exchange and other details. The result of the negotiations will be reported at the meeting February 26.

## STEARNES'S STATEMENT SPREAD ON RECORD

Superintendent of Public Instruction Stearnes presented a statement prepared by him, which attracted much attention, and provoked a long discussion. At the request of Mr. Stearnes, the board ordered the written statement spread upon the records.

An incident of the meeting which occasioned alarm and anxiety for some minutes was a sudden spell of illness that came upon Governor Stuart as he sat in the board room. The Governor had been sitting with the other members of the board several hours, when he began to experience a feeling of faintness. His usually ruddy features took on a deep pallor, and he raised his hand to his brow with an expression of physical distress.

"I'm not feeling well," he said, noting the anxiety in the faces about him. "I really don't know what the trouble is with me. I can't understand it. But I am not well."

## GOVERNOR'S ILLNESS OCCASIONS ALARM

For a few minutes business was suspended. Superintendent Stearnes suggested calling a physician. Secretary Evan R. Chesterman urged the executive to lie down for a rest on a lounge in the adjoining room.

"I don't think it is anything serious," said Governor Stuart. "I guess I am just a bit faint." He rose and went into the room and into the corridor, and returning, announced that he was feeling better, and was ready to proceed with business. "I'm sure I am getting all right," he said, smiling cheerfully, "because I feel that I want to smoke. When I want to smoke I'm all right."

The spell of faintness that came upon the Governor at the board meeting was no surprise to State officers at the Capitol when they learned of it later. That Governor Stuart has persistently overtaxed his physical powers since the opening of the special session of the General Assembly has been the subject of common comment around the Capitol for some days. Some of the officers facetiously put it: "The Governor is trying to hang up a new record for long office hours and hard work."

## BROKEN ALL RECORDS FOR LONG AND HARD WORK

As a matter of fact, the Governor, a man of unusual physical strength and vitality, has applied himself frequently until far into the night to the tax reform measures under consideration. The oldest occupants of State offices are authority for the statement that no Governor in the history of Virginia ever devoted so much time to official business as the millionaire executive from the Southwest. Since the opening of the special session, the Governor has been seen in his office as late as midnight, after spending practically the whole day there. His capacity for sustained effort and his powers of endurance are something the average State officer has never been able to fathom. His partial collapse yesterday was, no doubt, due to close confinement in his office and the mental strain involved in the many weeks of study and thought given by him to the tax reform system, by which he has been deeply absorbed.

Normally, the Governor is a man of unusual good health and spirits. His physical strength is also extraordinary. He has enjoyed rugged health all his life, except for a period of a few weeks, some years ago, when he was down with an attack of typhoid fever.

## ATTACK ON FORTS OF DARDANELLES

British and French Fleets Join in Bombardment, With Considerable Success.

## NONE OF ALLIES' SHIPS HIT

Naval Experts Think Engagement Must Have Been One of Most Serious Undertaken.

LONDON, February 20 (11:22 P. M.).—The first serious attack by the British and French Mediterranean fleets, assisted by aeroplanes and seaplanes, on the Dardanelles forts, which began yesterday and continued to-day, has met with considerable success, according to the British official account and unofficial accounts received at Athens from the island of Tenedos, at the entrance to the straits.

The Turkish official report, however, stated that no damage had been done to the forts, and that the casualties of the defenders consisted of one killed and one wounded, but that three of the warships were damaged by shots from the forts.

## STEAMER TORPEDOED WITHOUT WARNING

Three Important Features Outstanding in War News

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Three Important announcements furnish the outstanding features in the latest reports concerning the European war. The British and French Mediterranean fleets are carrying on a vigorous bombardment of the Dardanelles forts, the first serious attack made at this point by the allied warships. The German forces have been defeated at the fortress of Ossowetz, north-east of Lomza, Russian Poland, according to advices from a member of the Russian general staff. A German submarine has made its way into the Irish Sea and torpedoed a British coasting steamer near the route taken by transatlantic steamers to and from Liverpool.

The attack on the Dardanelles was begun Friday and continued throughout Saturday.

At Ossowetz, it is reported, the German invaders suffered heavy losses after a stubborn artillery battle, and are retreating to the East Prussian frontier.

The British steamer which met disaster in the Irish Sea was the Cambank, which was torpedoed east of Linnas Point by a German submarine without warning. Three members of the crew were killed, and a fourth was drowned, the remainder being saved.

In the western theatre of war there has been cannonading in Belgium and along the whole front as far as and including Rheims. In the Champagne district the allies have repulsed several counterattacks and made fresh progress north of Verdun. At Les Eparges, southeast of Verdun, the allies on Saturday delivered a fresh attack, after having repulsed the sixth counterattack by the Germans.

Fighting is in progress almost everywhere along the Carpathian front.

The Austrians announce that in Southeastern Galicia the Russians have been unable to maintain their positions north of Nadvorna, and have retired in the direction of Stanislau.

An Austrian aeroplane flew over Cetinje, capital of Montenegro, on February 19, dropping nine bombs, which killed two women and wounded four children, according to a semi-official announcement made in Paris.

M. Pokkevsky-Kozell, Russian minister to Roumania, stated, in a speech to the Russian Foreign Minister, that according to such information as he had been able to secure, Roumania would take sides neither for nor against Russia and her allies, but would continue her present policy of armed and watchful neutrality.

## STARKE WOULD BURN ALL WRITTEN EVIDENCE

Chairman of Mayor Ainslie's Vice Commission Makes Extended Statement.

NO REFERENCE TO PROTECTION TELLS WHAT STEPS WERE TAKEN FOR RELIEF OF INMATES OF FORMER SEGREGATED DISTRICT—NO MENTION IS MADE OF POLICE BOARD.

Ashton Starke, chairman of Mayor Ainslie's Vice Commission, gave out an extended statement yesterday in regard to the work of the commission, prefacing that he was speaking individually and not for the commission. He did not say when the Vice Commission would make a further report, nor did he allude to the statement in regard to No. 1 that the commission had found twice as many disorderly women outside of the district as in it, that policemen had told the commission why houses outside of the district had been permitted, and that those policemen who so testified would need protection from their superiors, the Board of Police Commissioners.

HOPES TO SEE ALL EVIDENCE CONSIGNED TO FLAMES

Supplementing his formal statement, Mr. Starke was quoted yesterday afternoon as saying that he would be agreeable to have the Mayor make any specific evidence he might ask for, or any evidence the Mayor should have for his information and guidance in bettering moral and political conditions, but that he would not agree to turn over to the Mayor the whole mass of evidence the Vice Commission is in possession of, and was anxious for the day when it would be consigned to the flames. Other members are known to hold opposite views, and favor turning over the entire record to the Mayor, leaving it to his discretion to make public such portions as he may consider proper.

CHAIRMAN STARKE REVIEWS WORK OF COMMISSION

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AMSTERDAM, February 20 (via London).—A dispatch from Constantinople gives this official Turkish statement: "Early Saturday morning British and French ships renewed their bombardment of the outer forts of the Dardanelles, firing 400 shots, without much success. One soldier was slightly wounded by a fragment of stone."

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## SUBMARINE NEAR ROUTE USED BY ATLANTIC LINERS

British Ship Sent to Bottom in Irish Sea—Four of Crew Are Killed.

## GERMANS BADLY BEATEN AT OSSOWETZ FORTRESS

Reported to Have Suffered Heavy Losses in Stubborn Artillery Battle.

## RETREATING TO FRONTIER

Whole of Line Northward Along East Prussian Frontier Engaged.

LONDON, February 20 (10:40 P. M.).—A German submarine appeared in the Irish Sea early to-day and torpedoed without notice the British coasting steamer Cambank, of 440 tons register. Three of the crew were killed and a fourth was drowned while the men were taking to the boats.

This was the only incident connected with the German submarine blockade of the British Isles reported during the day. It came about the time that the Anglo-French fleet was bombarding the Dardanelles forts, and while the Russians, according to a telegram from Petrograd, were defeating the Germans at Ossowetz, Poland, and driving back to the frontier the troops which had attacked the fortress.

Except for the loss of life, the sinking of the Cambank was not within itself a serious matter, but the presence of a German submarine near the route which the Atlantic liners take to and from Liverpool and along which many steamers pass daily is certain to cause uneasiness.

While this is not the first time that a hostile submarine has been in these waters, the last one to visit them gave the crews of three ships which she sank an opportunity to leave the vessels before sinking them.

SINKING CAUSE RAISES NO DIPLOMATIC PROBLEM

The Cambank apparently had slowed down to pick up her Liverpool pilot when she was observed by the submarine and torpedoed. While the sinking of this steamer can, however, raise no diplomatic problem, a serious situation may arise out of the torpedoing of the Norwegian tank steamer Belridge, which, according to the British admiralty, was struck by a torpedo off Folkestone.

The Scandinavian Foreign Office has ordered the Norwegian consulate at London to make an investigation immediately and report, with the object, it is said, of making representations to Germany if the facts are as stated by the British officials.

Despite the attacks on these steamers, the arrivals at and sailings from British ports maintain their daily average.

In the meantime, the battles on the Continent continue with ever-increasing intensity. The offensive which the allies undertook early in the week has brought about activity all along the lines, and attacks and counterattacks have become more numerous. Both the British and French seemingly made considerable progress at the outset of the offensive operations, and this made it necessary for the Germans to deliver counterattacks to regain the ground they had lost. In carrying these out, the Germans have shown the same desperate spirit which characterized their previous operations under