

Abbeville Press and Banner

ABBEVILLE, S. C., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 1916.

ESTABLISHED 1844

AGAIN TO THE FOREFRONT

London, Jan. 3.—The Glasgow steamer Glengyle, has been torpedoed. It is the largest merchantman that has been sunk since the Lusitania and Arabic. It is believed the vessel carried no passengers. It is said that 100 of the crew have been rescued. It is believed that many others were lost.

Glengyle Sunk Sunday.
Washington, Jan. 3.—The Glengyle was sunk Sunday morning between Port Said and Malta. The vessel carried some passengers, all of whom have been landed. Some members of the crew are missing.

Lansing Astounded.
Washington, Jan. 3.—Secretary Lansing was informed by the United States consul at Alexandria that the sinking of the Glengyle had been reported. He was astounded and refused to comment. He immediately telephoned the President.

Sees Lansing.
Jan. 3.—Austrian consul called on Secretary Lansing and discussed this government's attitude toward the Persia and the Lusitania. The charges declared that Austrian relations are friendly.

President Harries to Washington.
Washington, Jan. 3.—President Wilson is expected to return to Washington immediately in a special train to Hot Springs, to enable him to take charge of the Lusitania crisis. He will reach the Capital early Tuesday morning.

was stated at the White House he would immediately call a cabinet meeting. It was stated at State Department today that no serious should be made to minimize seriousness of the situation. It indicated that an immediate understanding between the Central powers will be demanded.

Overman Is Working.
Washington, Jan. 3.—Senator Overman of North Carolina, through the influence of McNeely, was appointed to his post, called at the State Department seeking further information from the reports of the Lusitania.

Washington Is Anxious.
Washington, Jan. 3.—Official Washington is awaiting with anxieties further information regarding the sinking of the Persia. The Lusitania is expected to be rescued.

Sank in Six Minutes.
Alexandria, Jan. 3.—Surviving officers of the Persia, who landed here, declared positively that the vessel was torpedoed. There was a survivor. The loss of life due to the fact that the Persia sank in six minutes and also that of the passengers were at lunch at the time the vessel was struck. They could not use the lifeboats on the starboard side because of the list of the ship.

Persia Torpedoed Also.
Alexandria, Jan. 1.—The British liner, 7,794 tons, was sunk in the Mediterranean on Thursday. It was probably hit by a submarine. Many were lost. Only four boats, carrying passengers, and members of the crew, are reported to have been saved.

Nearly All Perished.
Washington, Jan. 1.—Robert McNeely, United States Consul at Aden, was aboard the Persia when it was sunk in the Mediterranean. It was learned from the State Department today. McNeely is not to be included in the territory covered by this bill, but an unofficial announcement has been made that Ireland will be included.

British Steamer Adelia, Has Been Submerged.
The British steamer Adelia, has been submerged. The vessel was on a voyage from London to Bombay.

Little Fighting Has Been in Progress in the Western War Theatre.
The British minister, Mr. Asquith, has informed the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, a powerful trade union organization, that he will agree to the demands of the trade unionists in return for their consent that skilled and unskilled labor shall be employed together in the manufacture of munitions. Mr. Asquith asked for assurances that, should a measure to safeguard the employment of diluted labor be passed, they would end the long series of demands and grievances of the trade unionists.

RECEIVER FOR THE UNION DISPENSARY

CLAIM CITY HAS NOT RECEIVED PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF PROFITS.

Union, Jan. 3.—The city of Union through its city attorney, Macbeth Young, appeared before Judge Sease at chambers in Spartanburg yesterday and had a temporary receiver appointed for the Union county dispensary and also a temporary writ of injunction enjoining any person whatsoever from interfering in any way with the assets or liabilities of the institution until a complete audit of its affairs has been made. Efforts will be made to have the receivership made permanent. It is claimed by the town authorities that they have not received their proportionate share of the profits now due and they demand a full investigation. Thomas McNally has been appointed temporary receiver and tonight has charge of the two local dispensaries.

THE WEATHER.

Old timers say that the first twelve days after the first of January are indicative of the weather for the months of the coming year. If this is the truth then March is going to be as mild as a May morning and April is to be cold.

OUR MERCHANTS.

Since Christmas our merchants have been busy taking stock and getting ready for the coming year. Most people are busy paying debts or arranging to renew their notes. Our merchants are displaying garden seed in their windows and new gingham to entice the women into spending more money.

AN ABBEVILLE AUTHORESS

The people of Abbeville will be interested in the news that Miss Myrtle McLesky has chosen literature as her profession and has written several stories. In the last issue of the "Piedmont," a magazine published in Anderson, S. C., she has had a very entertaining story published. The story is very well written and is a credit to the young authoress. Miss Myrtle has been writing stories since she was in the seventh grade and she is now engaged on what she hopes to make a good novel.

FROM AMERICAN CONSUL SKINNER AT LONDON.

McNeely was en route to his post. Secretary Lansing said that he is awaiting further report before taking action. He is seeking to learn if McNeely was saved. Consul Skinner reported that nearly all on board perished. If McNeely was killed the United States will face its most serious situation in the submarine controversy.

Survivors of the British passenger steamer Persia to the number of 153 are reported to have been landed at Alexandria. They comprised 59 passengers and 99 of the crew.

Latest advices say that the Persia, which was torpedoed off the island of Crete in the Mediterranean, sank in five minutes. Robert N. McNeely, American consul at Aden, is believed to have lost his life. One American is reported to have been saved. Other American passengers have not been accounted for.

Russian advices indicate a powerful offensive movement by the Russians in the campaign in Galicia and Volhynia, along a front of nearly 300 miles. The Russians have made considerable progress and their efforts are considered as tending to relieve the situation in the Balkans and likely to have an influence over the future attitude of Roumania.

There has been no fighting in the southern part of the Balkan peninsula, and at Saloniki the entente allies have made good use of the period of quiescence to add to their defensive position.

In the Dardanelles, Constantinople reports continued engagements in which both land and sea forces took part.

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The premier is to introduce his conscription bill in parliament next Wednesday and it is reported from London that the Irish Nationalists are to offer strong opposition to it. It has been reported that Ireland is not to be included in the territory covered by this bill, but an unofficial announcement has been made that Ireland will be included. Little fighting has been in progress in the Western war theatre.

IMPORTANT WORK FOR LEGISLATURE

MANY IMPORTANT QUESTIONS TO ENGAGE THE COMING SESSION.

Columbia, Jan. 1.—One of the big problems to come before the General Assembly will be the strengthening of the progressive laws that were enacted at the last session. The object uppermost in the mind of Gov. Manning just now is to make these laws more effective.

It is impossible to predict just what course the Legislature will take on the many matters that will be presented, yet it is certain that practically all of the members will play politics to some extent. Next summer many of the sons will go on the stump to ask for reelection and they will try to make a good record of a local nature to influence votes.

The first great aim of the Legislature this year will be to hold down appropriations. The various institutions which have claims upon the General Assembly might as well be prepared to have their amounts cut down. It is certain that the Legislature will not increase the appropriations over last year and in no event will the tax levy be increased. The chairman of the finance committee of the House are disposed to work out some plan whereby the levy will be decreased.

Much important work is being undertaken by the State government just now and the leaders will see to it that none of the departments are crippled for a lack of finances.

Several of the State institutions will be asking for appropriations to erect new buildings. At the present time there is little chance for these sums to pass in the appropriation bill. Gov. Manning will watch the appropriation bill with an eagle eye and certain items are certain to be eliminated.

Educational Issues.

Gov. Manning is very much interested in the common school system of the State and he will use his power to strengthen these schools in every way. J. E. Swearingen, State superintendent of education, has already stated that he will ask for an appropriation of \$400,000 for the common schools of the State. The common schools will get this amount if there is enough to go around.

The Legislature will very probably spend some time in discussing the compulsory education law which was enacted at the last session. It is not probable that the law will be made State-wide at this session. It is probable that the child labor age limit will be raised to 14 years from 12. It is argued that the age limit should be the same as provided by the compulsory education measure. The compulsory law has been adopted by many districts in the State.

The strengthening of the law governing the State warehouse system will be another problem for the Legislature. During the past several weeks Gov. Manning and John L. McLaurin, State warehouse commissioner, have held a series of conference when changes in the law were discussed. While nothing of an official nature has been announced it is understood that the proposed changes will include a special commission to have charge of the system. The commissioner would work under the direction of this commission. The people of the State are in the dark so far as to what has been accomplished by the cotton warehouse system, yet it is said that the report of Mr. McLaurin will show that much has been done of a beneficial nature to the farmer. Mr. McLaurin has refused to give out his report until the General Assembly opens. He said that many important questions were discussed.

Tax Commission Law.

It is practically certain that the law creating the State tax commission will be amended at this session. The bankers of the state are fighting the commission and it is rumored that certain members of the Senate will oppose the confirmation of the appointment of A. W. Jones, chairman of the commission. The name of Mr. Jones will be presented to the Senate early in the session and rumor has it that a determined fight will be made on him. The tax commission has recommended the passage of an inheritance tax, a survey of the State, a strict enforcement of the income tax law and more power for the Legislature, by constitutional amendment, in fixing taxes.

One of the most interesting reports to be filed with the General Assembly will be that of the State board of charities and corrections. This board created at the last session has done a wonderful work for the benefit of the State's wards. It is certain that the board will be continued and liberally supported by the Legislature. The board has already justified its existence. The ground work has been laid and even greater results will be obtained in the future.

Liquor Questions.

Liquor has been a subject for discussion in South Carolina for 25 years and again this year it will cause some talk. The State is now

GENERAL NEWS IN CONDENSED FORM

SHORT ITEMS OF HAPPENINGS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.

Fire in the stables occupied by the Sumter Transfer company, completely destroyed the stables and burned up six mules last week. The loss is partly covered by insurance.

The New Year celebrations all over the country were held as usual and varied according to the locality in which they were held. In New York the saloons were privileged to stay open two hours longer than usual and the gay throng on Broadway celebrated in style. In Charleston the Hibernian Society held a public reception at their hall from noon till two o'clock and every one who attended was treated to a dish of hopping-John. This is an annual dish at the Society's celebrations and helps perpetuate the old time superstition that any one eating hopping-John on New Year will have good luck.

Among the New Year honors conferred by King George was that of title of Baron on William Waldorf Astor, the American, who has become a citizen of the British Empire. He has recently made large contributions to the war fund.

A decree establishing a minimum wage for the thousands of women and girls employed in the retail stores of the state of Massachusetts went into effect with the New Year. The minimum wage commission has fixed \$8.50 as a proper wage for experienced employees.

Business Manager Gaston, of the Ford Peace commission, estimates that the expenses of the commission will go over a million dollars.

There is a movement on foot in Spartanburg to erect a monument to Robert Y. Hayne. A Citizens committee of Spartanburg, headed by John B. Cleveland and H. E. Ravenel have asked the Spartanburg delegation to favor an appropriation for such a purpose. The delegation is asked to secure an appropriation of not less than one thousand five hundred dollars.

The battleship South Carolina, is soon to receive a fine present from the Holland-American steamship line, in appreciation of the South Carolina's effort to secure passengers from the steamship Ryndam, which collided with another ship near Nantucket last May. The present will be in the form of a solid silver model, four feet high of the warship Zeven Provinciën, the flagship of Admiral DeRuyter, famed in the history of the seventeenth century.

According to the figures compiled by the Tuskegee Institute and issued recently, there were sixty-nine lynchings by mobs in the United States last year. There were fifty-five negroes and fourteen white men put to death in this manner, which is six more negroes and eleven more whites than in 1914. Only fifteen per cent of those put to death were charged with assaults on women.

In the prohibition column and the Legislature may be asked for a special appropriation to enforce the law. Some means must be provided to stamp out the "spueakeasy" and the "tiger," or the prohibition law will not be worth the paper that it is written on. It will be interesting to hear just what Gov. Manning will have to say on this subject. Law enforcement is dear to his heart and the enforcement of the prohibition law will be one of the hardest tasks before the chief executive. The Legislature will also have to decide on the disposition of the stocks held in the 15 counties, formerly having the dispensary system.

Gov. Manning has been giving the question of rural credits serious consideration and his message will contain some reference to this important subject. Just what kind of a law will be proposed can not be predicted at this time.

Gov. Manning will insist upon a continuance of the constructive policy with reference to the State Hospital for the Insane, where wonders have been accomplished during the past year. Several departments of the institution have been rebuilt and the State is now dealing with its insane in a most kindly manner. The Governor will ask the special appropriation of \$150,000 for the improvement of the building be continued. This request will meet with little opposition, because the appropriation for the same amount was so well used last year.

During the past week Gov. Manning has been in conference with the State officials when their recommendations were discussed. The military department of the State is asking for \$69,000 to meet the demands. Of this sum \$25,000 will be used to refund the federal government for lost property. There is little prospect for wrangling at the coming session.

WHISKEY LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA

VARIOUS LAWS HAVE BEEN PASSED IN THIS STATE FOR PROHIBITION.

Columbia, January 1.—The question of the abolition of the whiskey traffic in South Carolina, began to be agitated soon after the redemption of the State under Gen. Hampton in 1876, but this early agitation was for local option in a few scattered counties. Special acts of the General Assembly, were introduced and passed permitting "wet" and "dry" elections for Anderson, Orangeburg, Laurens and other counties. The contest between the prohibitionists and license men in some of these counties was heated. In none of them which succeeded in voting out the licensed saloons was prohibition successfully enforced in those days and after a few years most of them returned to the licensed saloon system.

In the Legislature of 1890, a bill for Statewide prohibition, introduced by late L. D. Childs, of Richland County, developed great strength and narrowly failed of passage. This was the period of intense factional division between the "Tillmanites" and the "anti-Tillmanites" and both factions included numbers of men on both sides of the liquor question. Neither faction, as such, was willing to take a stand on either side of the question. In 1892, when the contest for governor was between B. R. Tillman and John C. Sheppard, the State Democratic executive committee consented that in each precinct a separate box should be placed in which the people at the primary election might vote as between prohibition and licensed saloons. The total vote cast for governor at this election was a little less than 88,000, and the vote on the whiskey question totaled a little more than 70,000. The prohibitionists won in the referendum by about 10,000, the vote for license being about 30,000, and that for prohibition about 40,000. When the result became known it was taken for granted that the Legislature would enact the Childs bill or one similar to it. Mr. Childs did not return to the Legislature and the new prohibition bill was introduced in the house by Mr. Roper, when the Legislature met in November. The Tillmanites or "Reformers" had overwhelming majorities in both houses. The leaders of their faction were afraid of prohibition. They apprehended that it might, if enacted, cause an increase of taxation and in other ways divide the Tillman forces. The Roper bill was, however, promptly passed by the house. In the senate a number of bills bearing on the whiskey traffic were introduced and at one time it seemed as though the subject would be so confused in that body that no legislation would result. Governor Tillman already had taken the position that the profits of the saloons, which hitherto had gone entirely into the town treasuries, should be divided with the counties, so that the rural sections might share in them. Marlboro county at this time was dry, as it had been since a day preceding the War Between the Sections, and there may have been one or two other dry counties.

Gothenburg System.

As the end of the session of the General Assembly approached, the dispensary bill was introduced by Senator John Gary Evans, then of Aiken. The dispensary system, modeled upon the Gothenburg system of Norway, was already in operation in Athens, Ga. T. Larry Gantt, then editor of the Columbia Register, had lately come to South Carolina from Athens, and it was said that he suggested the Athens plan to Governor Tillman. At any rate Governor Tillman became enamored of the scheme. When the bill was introduced in the senate no one took it seriously except those of the inner councils of the Reformers, but it was said that the Reform members of the General Assembly or some of them held a caucus and decided that it should be enacted. The measure came up in the senate for discussion at a time so close to the day fixed for adjournment that it was impracticable to give it three readings in both houses. The prohibition bill already passed by the house had come over to the senate and the senate dispensary bill was then moved as an amendment to it, only the title of the house bill being retained. After strenuous opposition and a filibuster by the seven anti-Tillmanite senators the bill was passed, three of those aligned with the Reform faction voting against it. One of these three was Dr. D. E. Finley, senator from York and now representative in congress. The new law included the essential principles of the present dispensary system. It was passed in December, 1892, and took effect July 1, 1893. It provided for the establishment of a State wholesale dispensary and dispensaries in all the counties except Marlboro which the late Senator W. D. Evans of that county, by resolute efforts succeeded in causing to be exempted.

Law Attacked.

The constitutionality of the law

CONGRESS FACES BIG QUESTION

SERIOUS MATTERS PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION—DEBATE WILL BEGIN.

Washington, Jan. 2.—Congress reconvenes Tuesday for the consideration of momentous questions confronting it. Before the holiday recess little was accomplished, but during the preliminary two weeks there were assurances that foreign relations incident to the European war and preparedness would be the dominating features of the session, fraught with far reaching possibilities. Important international events since the recess have served to make indications stronger than ever that the legislative branch will seek all available information in possession of the government relating to relations complications. Administration leaders probably will find it difficult to prevent speech making immediately after congress reconvenes regarding the recent sinking of the British steamer Persia in the Mediterranean, in which an American consular official is believed to have perished.

The senate committee on foreign relations will take the lead in the consideration of international affairs. Pending before the committee is Senator Hoke Smith's resolution urging investigation into British interference with neutral shipping and the Lodge amendment directing also that investigation be made into the "law and the facts" concerning destruction of the Lusitania, other attacks upon vessels imperiling American lives and the conspiracy against neutrals "within our borders" to which President Wilson referred in his annual address to congress.

About this resolution and amendment will center the committee's deliberations over foreign problems. Senator Hoke Smith has prepared another address on the commercial situation with cotton as his particular subject which he expects to deliver soon after the senate meets.

The military and naval affairs committees of both houses have been studying the national preparedness programme. House committees plan to get to work on these at once and public hearings are contemplated. Senate committees, meantime, will study the bills submitted and map out programme of procedure.

The revenue situation also will command immediate attention. Representative Kitchin, chairman of the ways and means committee, plans to call the committee together without delay to take up this problem. Senator Sherman, chairman of the finance committee, also contemplates frequent meetings of Democratic members to study fiscal problems. First to be considered will be the amendment of the war revenue law, which was reenacted hurriedly just before recess with the general understanding that amendments would be proposed to increase its revenue producing power. Involved in this are issues likely to provoke wide divergence of views, among them the suggestions to tax gasoline, automobiles, horsepower, steel products and other articles of commerce and a stamp tax on bank checks. Amendment of the income tax and an inheritance tax also are to be given serious thought.

Much general legislation is on the programme for consideration as soon as the preparedness and defense questions are out of the way. A bill to create a land loan banking system and another to develop mineral resources on public lands have been practically completed by house committees during the holidays.

was attacked in the State court. Opposition to the law was intense throughout the State but it was generally and firmly supported by Senator Tillman's faction who were a decided majority of the people. In the spring of 1894 occurred the "Darlington war," as it was popularly called, which resulted in the killing and wounding of three or four men of both factions, resulting in the proclamation by the Governor that the counties of Darlington and Florence were in a state of insurrection. About a month later the Supreme Court of the State, then composed of Justices Simpson, McGowan, Pope, declared the law unconstitutional. Mr. Pope dissented. Some weeks following whiskey was retailed freely without license and there was no license law in existence and the dispensary law had been null and void. In August the personnel of the Supreme Court was changed, a new test case was brought and the former decision was reversed. The dispensary system was again in force. At the session of the Legislature of 1893 and at subsequent sessions the law underwent various changes, the essential regulations of selling intoxicants were retained. In 1895 the constitutional convention incorporated the dispensary plan in the organic law of the State in a clause which Senator Tillman has said that he would not have changed.

The Downfall.
In 1905 the Brice law, introduced by Senator J. Steele Brice of

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