

# Abbeville Press and Banner

Established 1844.

\$2.00 the Year.

Abbeville, S. C., Friday, Feby. 21, 1919.

Single Copies, Five Cents. 75th Year.

## FRENCH PREMIER SHOT BY ASSASSIN

Georges Clemenceau Struck by Three Shots But Will Survive—Had Just Left Home for Visit to House—“France's Grand Young Man” Speaks Lightly of Hurts.

Paris, Feb. 19.—Premier Georges Clemenceau, characterized by Lloyd George as “France's grand young man,” was attacked today by an anarchist, Emile Cottin, known as “Milou.” Seven shots were fired, three of which struck the premier. One bullet lodged in the muscles of the shoulder, penetrating deeply, but, so far as it is present known, not injuring the spine or penetrating to the lungs. Two bullets bruised the right arm and hand, while two other bullets are reported to have passed through the premier's clothing.

At the time of the attempted assassination M. Clemenceau had just left his home to drive in a motor car to a conference with Col. Edward M. House of the American peace delegation and Arthur J. Balfour, British secretary for foreign affairs. Though bleeding profusely, M. Clemenceau was able to return to his home, where he reassured the members of his household and waved aside anxious inquirers with, “It is nothing.”

Latest reports from his attendants were that his condition was satisfactory and that he was cheerful throughout the day despite occasional fits of coughing.

For the present it has been decided by the surgeons that extraction of the bullets may not be necessary, and arrangements have been made to take radiographs of the injured parts.

### “Enemy of Humanity.”

Cottin, whom the police believed to be a somewhat harmless person, associating with anarchists and aiding in their propaganda, declared that he had planned to kill the premier because M. Clemenceau was “the enemy of humanity” and was preparing for another war.

After temporary aid had been given M. Clemenceau, Professors Gosset and Tuffier, of the University of Paris, were hastily summoned and had a hurried consultation. They decided upon an X-ray examination. One of the surgeons said that perhaps it would not be necessary to remove the bullet, as no bones were shattered and no important blood vessel had been touched, although the wound was quite deep and bled profusely.

Upon emerging from his car M. Clemenceau passed his wounded hand over his face, leaving the face smeared with blood, and this was the reason for the first report that he had been wounded in the head.

Marshal Foch arrived about 10 o'clock and later was joined by Marshal Petain. They remained for a considerable period.

Premier Clemenceau was quite cheerful, in spite of occasional fits of coughing. He declared to members of his household that he thought he knew his assailant. He had seen him last evening when entering his home but the man had slunk away.

Policeman Goursat, who was wounded in the right eye, said:

“The bullet which struck me went through the Limousine, as I was directly in line with the assassin, who was rushing towards the premier's car.

“This man surely was not a Frenchman; his whole appearance is much like the Nihilists who are familiar on the left bank of the Seine.”

### KAISER'S SON ARRESTED.

Copenhagen, Feb. 20.—Prince Joachim, of Prussia, youngest son of former Emperor William, has been arrested, according to a dispatch from Munich. The dispatch states his arrest was on suspicion of his being connected with “certain intrigues.”

## GOOD ROADS BILL KILLED IN HOUSE

Debate Goes on Until Past Midnight. Vote For Referendum—Amendments to Meet Objections of Opponents Voted Down by Overwhelming Majority.

Columbia, Feb. 19.—Good roads legislation originating in the house this session was discarded with reckless abandon last night. The vote of the central committee's substitute bill, which was a combination of all the ideas proposed, was rejected by a vote of 51 to 63. The Burgeson measure, for which the committee measure was a substitute, was then rejected by a vote of 27 to 76. The hand of the clock had already passed the meridian when this last vote was taken, and the house then adjourned until 12 o'clock noon, today.

Unsuccessful effort was made to amend the committee substitute bill to meet every contention. An amendment was offered to allow the expenditure in each county of its funds thus derived under the bill. This was rejected. Two amendments were finally adopted, one to submit the committee substitute in referendum to the automobile owners, regardless of color of voter, the fourth Tuesday in next August, adopted by a vote of 61 to 56, and another amendment to cut the proposed license fee of \$1 in half. The referendum bill was strenuously opposed by the leaders of the measure on the negro issue.

Only two votes were needed to carry the amendment proposing a one mill levy on all the taxable property, this vote being 59 to 60.

The debate which was begun in the morning session was resumed last night at 8 o'clock and the battle for and against the measure was kept up until past midnight. Similar measures are pending in the senate.

Mr. McDonald of Oconee argued for the passage of the bill. Oconee County was the first to pass an automobile license law. His people were opposed to the measure until the plan was explained, then they were heartily in favor.

Mr. Miley of Bemberg, wanted a bill that would distribute the burden equally. There was something behind the suggestion that the automobiles should pay.

### TAX COMMISSION STANDS.

The proposition to abolish the present Tax Commission, and to provide for a Board of Assessors of seven men, received its death blow in the Senate on Wednesday. Explaining that he did not fully understand the terms of the bill at the time, and that he allowed his name to be used as one of the authors of the bill believing that it would tend to decentralize the powers possessed by the present commission, and that he had learned on further examination that the bill would have no such effect, but would merely transfer the powers now possessed by the present commission to other office-holders. Senator Moore of Abbeville, voted against the enactment of the proposed law.

### MARK SMITH IN JAIL.

Deputy Marshal Bruce returned from Washington on Wednesday, to which place he had gone to bring Mark Smith back to Abbeville. Mark made no further objections to coming after requisition was granted. He was lodged in jail and will remain there until next week when he will be tried. Mark is the negro charged with shooting Deputy Sheriff Cann.

### COTTON MARKET.

Good cotton on the Abbeville market brought 28 cts. yesterday. March futures closed in New York at 23.32, being up about 90 points.

## HOUSE STANDS FOR SMALL ARMY

Declines to Vote for Half Million Men—Old Plan Approved—Bill Passed Providing for Peace Strength of Less Than Two Hundred Thousand.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Legislation providing for a temporary military establishment of about 540,000 officers and men during the fiscal year beginning next July 1, was eliminated from the annual army appropriation bill tonight in the house after passage of the senate bill for resumption of voluntary enlistments in the peace time army, which would be restricted to the maximum of 175,000 men authorized in the national defense act of 1916.

The senate measure now goes to conference and will become effective upon its approval by President Wilson. The army bill also was adopted by the house without a record vote and now goes to the senate with its completion there at this session regarded by many leaders as doubtful. It carries a total of \$1,070,000,000 for the war department for the 12 months after June 30.

It was explained by members of the house that the senate bill did not affect the present war time army, which, under the selective service act, must be demobilized within four months after peace is formally declared by presidential proclamation. Decision of the house to consider the senate measure was by a vote of 172 to 162. Chairman Dent by direction of the house military committee, had asked for a rule to make the temporary army legislation in the regular appropriation bill in order, but the ults committee took no formal action on the request.

Instead it voted 7 to 5 to report a resolution giving the senate measure the right of way. Ten Republicans joined with 162 Democrats in voting for the resolution in the house after a sharp debate.

Before adopting the senate bill, the house amended it so as to provide that recruits should be enrolled in the regular army for only one year without further service in the reserve. Their pay was fixed by another amendment at \$30 a month, the war time basis in the army.

### DEATH OF MRS.

#### LUCY SYFAN MERCK

The distressing news was received in Abbeville Thursday morning of the death of Mrs. Ralph Ashford Merck, at her home in Gainesville, Ga., after a short illness of influenza. Mrs. Merck was the third daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Syfan, of Fort Pickens, and as Miss Lucy Syfan was known and beloved of a wide circle of friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Merck were happily married last April, since which time they have made their home in Gainesville, where Mr. Merck is a prominent merchant.

Mrs. Merck was a graduate of the high school here, finishing her studies in 1914. She was in her twenty-first year and during all her short life she had been a dutiful and loving daughter, a warm friend. She was a consistent member of the Methodist church.

Owing to the fact that Mr. Merck is himself desperately sick with the same disease, no funeral arrangements had been made up to the press hour of this paper.

Since the above was written news has come that the infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Merck has died since the death of its mother.

The people of Abbeville, in her childhood home, grieve with the family at the death of this young woman with so much in life to live for, and who a few days ago apparently had just begun its pilgrimage.

## PLAN TO HOLD COTTON AND REDUCE ACREAGE

All Growers and Producers in United States Will Be Called on to Act in Concert Resolution Drawn by Committee Headed by Manning.

New Orleans, Feb. 19.—A program for the reduction of the 1919 acreage planted to cotton and the holding of the present crop for higher prices was embodied in resolutions passed at the closing session today of the conference of bankers, merchants, and farmers from all of the cotton producing States. The salient features of the resolution are:

1. Reduction of the 1919 cotton acreage by one-third as compared with 1918.

2. A pledge not to sell any part of the present crop for other than “remunerative prices” and to hold this crop until the demand calls for it at such prices.

3. Formation of State cotton acreage reduction associations whose business it will be to obtain written pledges to carry out the first two provisions from every cotton grower and cotton producer in the United States.

4. To brand any man who refuses to cooperate as “so lacking in public spirit as to forfeit the confidence of the community in which he lives.”

5. A future convention of cotton producers before which a detailed report of the progress of the plans outlined above is to be made by every cotton growing State.

The resolutions which were drawn up by a committee composed of a banker, farmer and merchant from each of the cotton growing States, headed by former Gov. Richard I. Manning, of South Carolina, as chairman, further declared that “the accumulation of large stocks of cotton in the hands of farmers and merchants of the South and the drastic decline in the price to figures below the cost of production, due to past war trade disorganization, to the scarcity of ocean tonnage, to the restrictions on trade imposed by foreign nations, . . . have precipitated upon the cotton producing, mercantile and banking interests of the South a crisis fraught with grave menace to the present welfare of the section as well as to the future prosperity thereof.”

### MRS. ELLA McILWAINE DEAD.

Mrs. Ella McIlwaine died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Ollie Muller, on Thursday morning, 20th inst. from paralysis. She was in the sixty-fourth year of her age. Mrs. McIlwaine had not been ill before her death. On Wednesday, the day before her death, she visited relatives, and on that evening she attended a prayer-meeting at the Presbyterian church, of which she was a member.

Mrs. McIlwaine was a daughter of the late Edward Westfield, who lived on the Due West road, and of his first wife, Virginia Beard. She was, therefore, a half-sister of Mr. W. W. Westfield and of Mrs. Will Morrow of Spartanburg.

She was born and reared in this county. She was a graduate of the Woman's College of Due West. After her graduation she was happily married to Pinckney McIlwaine of Abbeville, and spent all of her married life in Abbeville. Mr. McIlwaine died several years ago. She leaves the following children: J. E. McIlwaine, of Charlotte; W. T. McIlwaine, of Lakeland, Fla.; Mrs. Virginia Richardson, a missionary to China; Mrs. Muller and Miss Orene McIlwaine, now a teacher in the Mary Baldwin school, of Staunton, Va.

No funeral arrangements have been announced and none will be made until the arrival of the children, all of whom have been notified, and all of whom will be present for these services, except Mrs. Richardson.

## BOTH HOUSES HEAR CRITICISM VOICED

Proposed League of Nations Attacked by Poindexter in Senate and Fess in Lower Body. Addresses Being Carefully Prepared Republican Documents.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Vigorous criticism of the proposed constitution of the league of nations was voiced today in both houses of congress.

Speaking for three hours before crowded galleries, Senator Poindexter of Washington, Republican, precipitated a discussion in the senate which embraced other subjects and consumed practically the entire session. However, there was no formal reply to the Washington senator from the Democratic side.

Discussion in the house was unannounced and was not general. Just as the members were settling down for a night session Representative Fess of Ohio, chairman of the Republican congressional campaign committee, delivered a carefully prepared address in which he took up the constitution section by section and denounced the whole as abridging the sovereignty of the United States and containing “vicious possibilities.” The addresses by Senator Poindexter and Representative Fess were the first prepared ones made in congress since the constitution of the league was published and since President Wilson requested that discussion be postponed until he could confer with members of the senate and house foreign affairs committees at the White House next week.

### GERMANY FACES FAMINE, SAYS U. S. OFFICER IN REPORT

Army Impotent and Danger of Offensive No Longer Exists—Erzberger Tells Some War History. Spartan Mob Attack German Prison.

Paris, Feb. 19.—Captain Walter Gherardi, of the United States navy, who has been in Germany for two weeks studying economic and general conditions, has returned to Paris and reports that he found much unemployment throughout the country and a restless, fluid condition that contains a threat against the peace of the immediate future. He says Germany's food supplies are limited to nearly exhausted reserves, which cannot last longer than next month, leaving a great gap to be filled before harvest.

The German army, Captain Gherardi says, has shrunk to insignificant figures, and is no longer formidable.

If the new armistice terms now being framed, involving disarmament of all but a sufficient number of soldiers to prevent internal disorders are observed by the Germans, it is believed by most of the entente representatives here that France need have no further fear from that quarter and that there can be no reason for delaying the conclusion of the peace treaty.

Stockholm, Feb. 19.—Spartan mobs in an attempt to free Karl Radek, the Russian Bolshevik emissary, attacked the famous Moabit prison in Berlin twice Saturday, according to dispatches received here today. Both attempts were repelled by government troops.

Other dispatches reported Spartan outbreaks in Bavaria. Premier Eisner's secretary is said to be encouraging the Spartans there, who already have succeeded in arresting several government officials.

### A SICK FAMILY.

The family of Mr. G. W. Syfan in Fort Pickens are all sick with the “flu”. So far none are seriously sick and friends hope to see them out again soon.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY PASSES MANY BILLS

House Gives Greater Citadel Measure Final Reading—Tax Commission Bill Up—Compromise Bill as to Consolidated Agreed Upon in Senate.

Columbia, Feb. 19.—The bill providing for a greater Citadel was given its final reading in the House today and sent to the Senate. The House measure provides for an appropriation of \$300,000, payable in three yearly instalments. It is proposed to erect the new plant on the Ashley river on a 200-acre plot of ground donated by the City Council of Charleston near Hampton Park.

Among the important bills passed by the House to the Senate today was the measure appropriating \$100,000 for a building for a school for the feeble-minded and the bills forfeiting vehicles and vessels apprehended transporting intoxicants in violation of the prohibition law. Bills were passed from second to third reading in the House allowing adjacent counties to consolidate their chain gangs; providing for the education of disabled soldiers at the University of South Carolina, the Citadel and Clemson, prohibiting warehousemen allowing the use of cotton stored with them by other than the owners, and authorizing the construction of a bridge across the South Edisto river to connect Charleston and Colleton counties.

All day long the Senate discussed the bill to substitute a new taxing board for the present tax commission. By substituting a new organization the purpose is to thereby abolish the present tax commission.

The Senate passed a bill that was very dear to Senator Wharton. He is a Confederate soldier, and for it he and Senator Alexander, of Pickens, fought valiantly. The purpose of the bill is, first, to increase the Confederate pension from \$300,000 to 350,000. Then it provides that in the administration of the pension money the making up of the list shall be in the hands of Confederate soldiers, and it stipulates that all pensions shall be alike, that is, that every Confederate soldier today on the pension roll shall be paid a flat sum of \$96 a year, instead of seven classifications, as at present.

The Burgeson bill, which has already passed the House, and which is intended to exempt from taxation armories used exclusively for military purposes, passed the Senate, with an amendment including in this exemption property owned by the Y. W. C. A. and the Salvation Army. Other classes of religious property are already provided for.

On account of the blowing up of all good roads legislation in the House bills have been introduced both in the House and the Senate to secure South Carolina's quota of the government good roads fund by the imposition of a direct three-mill tax levy on all the property in the State. This fund if voted is to be under the direction of the State Highway Commission, and it is deemed necessary to secure the quota of money now available by the United States Government in aid of post roads.

### WILSON COMING HOME WITH 2,332 SOLDIERS

Washington, Feb. 19.—On board the George Washington, which is bringing home President and Mrs. Wilson, are 100 officers and 2,332 men of the American expeditionary forces, the War Department has announced. The announcement said the ship is due February 26. The port was not named, although it has been announced the President is to quit the ship at Boston.

Kinney Cann is out again after a severe attack of influenza.