

Alexandria Gazette

Rain this afternoon and probably tonight. Thursday partly cloudy; not much change in temperature; fresh and strong southwest winds.
Sun rose 7:03 Sun set 4:41.

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1915.

PRICE, 2 CENTS.

ENGLAND AND THE BALKANS

Hinted After Allies' Council That British Would Withdraw

OPPOSED BY JOFFRE

Several Members of Parliament Have Declared Experiment Useless, as Move Was too Late.

Paris, Dec. 8. — That England, against the wishes of her allies, favors the withdrawal of the expeditionary forces from the Balkans, is strongly hinted, following today's session of the allies' war council.

A high French official made this statement: "If England persists alone in favoring Saloniki, then the remainder of the allies will continue to aid the Serbs."

Sir John French, British commander-in-chief, is understood to have brought the suggestion that the Balkan campaign be abandoned to the allied war council, which held its third meeting today. It is said to have met with opposition not only from Gen. Joffre, but from other allied representatives.

It has been known in France for some time that England was far from satisfied with affairs in the Balkans. Several speakers in the English parliament called the Saloniki expedition useless, holding that it arrived too late and the number of troops was too small to give any real aid to Serbia.

French officials have given out several interviews, proclaiming the intention of France to give strong support to Serbia, though the newspapers recently have carried articles suggesting that the situation of the allied forces in Serbia may become perilous.

Berlin, Dec. 8. — Advices from Mesopotamia are to the effect that the Turks are continuing to operate vigorously against the British expedition along the Tigris river. They have driven the troops routed from the region of Bagdad within entrenchments at Kut-el-Amara, and have also expelled them from the north bank of the Tigris at that point.

The Turks, it is asserted, continue to capture the transport wagons attached to the expedition, a large number of which were unable to reach the advanced base at Kut-el-Amara. Much ammunition was captured just above Kut-el-Amara.

DENIES GETTING GERMAN AID

Labor Peace Council Not Pro-Terrestrial, Says President.

Orange, N. J., Dec. 8.—Jacob C. Taylor, president of the Labor National Peace Council, the activities of which are under investigation, by a Federal grand jury, last night issued a statement in which he denied that German agents had financed the council.

The sole aim of the council, Taylor declared, is to attempt to bring about universal peace, and he announced that within a few days he would call a conference of the officers, most of whom live in Chicago, to pass a resolution asserting that the sympathies of its members are not pro-German.

Sentenced to One Year

The jury in the Hustings Court, of Norfolk which tried Mrs. Amelia C. Stokley for the murder of A. P. Hasket, returned a verdict of guilty of voluntary manslaughter, Monday, night fixing the punishment of the accused at a year in the penitentiary. Hasket, who was a close personal friend of Mrs. Stokley's husband, was a frequent visitor to the Stokley home in Laurel avenue, Prentiss Place. When Stokley went to Hopewell to work last summer, Hasket visited the home one evening, and according to Mrs. Stokley's statement, he criminally assaulted her. She declares that as soon as she got an opportunity she ran into an adjoining room, secured a shot gun and shot Hasket dead.

ST. LOUIS WINS CONVENTION

Democratic National Convention Will Be Held There June 14.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The next Democratic National Convention will meet at St. Louis at 12 o'clock on Wednesday, June 14, 1916.

Decision to this effect was reached by the Democratic National Committee yesterday after considering the claims of the three cities—Chicago, Dallas, and St. Louis—each backed by the proffer of \$100,000 to defray the expenses of the political gathering. St. Louis, however, has the real cash, while the others were on paper.

The adoption of a resolution by the national committee calling on Mr. Wilson to run again was a most unusual proceeding. If any further evidence were needed, this is interpreted as conclusive that the President is to be a candidate to succeed himself. It was demonstrated that the Wilson men were in control of the committee and they probably would not have passed the resolution without learning the President's wishes. Usually the national committee tries to avoid making any open stand on a candidate in advance of the convention.

The belief here last night was that the passage of this resolution is part of a move to open the way for the President's announcement of his candidacy. The action of the committee will make it easier to explain away the one-term plank obstacle.

The committee meeting was a harmonious affair.

A warning that the Democratic party faces a struggle was uttered by Speaker Clark, who urged that the convention be held in St. Louis. "If you want the eighteen electoral votes of Missouri," he said, "you'd better send the convention to St. Louis."

The Speaker said that the dwindling of the Democratic majority in the House of Representatives foreshadowed the bitterness of the coming conflict. Concerning the problem of electing a candidate he added: "I suppose there's no doubt as to who it will be."

MESSAGE FROM FORD SHIP

Congress Asked to Support Mission of Auto Manufacturer

Washington, Dec. 8.—A wireless message was received here last night from Henry Ford, master of the great ship Oscar II, which is bound for foreign ports on a peace mission. The message was addressed to Congress. Ford asks that body to support Mr. Ford in his plan to end the war and get the men out of the trenches by the first of the new year.

Copies of the telegram were placed in the hands of Speaker Clark and Vice President Marshall last night. It will be read in the two houses when they meet on Friday. The message reads as follows:

"We, citizens of the United States, on sailing to Europe on the steamship Oscar II with the serious purpose uniting the citizens of European central countries in an organized effort to deliver the men from the trenches and the women from their suffering and agonies and restore the peace of the world upon an honorable and just basis which will stop the mad race of competitive armament, do hereby earnestly petition and entreat you to give the peace mission your support and encouragement, so that it may succeed at the earliest practicable moment. Signed, Henry Ford, for the 155 members of the International Peace Commission."

NEGRO SHOTS DOWN THREE

Fires Through Window, Killing One, Wounding Two.

Rockville, Md., Dec. 7.—Ernest Bright, a young negro, was killed and his cousins, William T. Bright and Bud Bright, were wounded Sunday when Paris Berkley, another negro, opened fire with his revolver at the home of Samuel Bright, father of the wounded men, near Layonsville. Berkley was arrested.

The shooting, it is said, followed a night of revelry at the Bright home. Berkley, it is alleged, left the house and fired his revolver three times through a window into a room in which were the three Brights and several others. Ernest Bright was struck just below the heart and died within a very few minutes. William T. Bright received a bullet in his right arm, while the third bullet struck Bud Bright in the chest, but was deflected by a rib.

AMERICAN SHIP IS TORPEDOED

Oil Steamer Communipaw Sent to Bottom in Mediterranean

HER CREW IS MISSING

Nationality of Destroyer Unknown—Another Grave Issue Sprung Upon U. S. Officials

London, Dec. 8.—A Rome dispatch today said that the American steamer Communipaw was submarined "with all hands" off Tabruk. This message was interpreted to mean that the crew of the steamer were lost.

Rome, Dec. 8.—The crew of the American steamer Communipaw, reported sunk by a submarine near Tabruk, Tripoli, is believed to have been lost. Greek and Italian steamers which answered the tanker's distress signals today report that they found no survivors, though they made a careful search.

Dispatches from Genoa said a crew of thirty-nine men and five American officers, commanded by Capt. George Nordstrom, was carried by the Communipaw. She was bound for Alexandria.

The nationality of the attacking submarine is unknown. No further details have been received.

London, Dec. 8.—An Athens dispatch to the Daily News reports that a Greek torpedo boat, sent out in response to a wireless from an American ship, found nothing but wreckage on reaching the scene and reported the crew had probably been lost. It is believed possible that the torpedoed vessel was the American steamer Communipaw.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Another serious submarine controversy appears to face the United States. Sinking in the Mediterranean of the American steamer Communipaw, a Standard Oil ship, with possible loss of American lives, threatens new international complications.

PREPARING TO STRIKE

Germans to Operate on a Large Scale in Mesopotamia

Geneva, Switzerland, Dec. 8.—The Germans are preparing on a large scale for operations in Mesopotamia under Field Marshal Baron Kolmar von der Goltz, who has just been appointed commander of the Turkish forces in Mesopotamia, according to private information received by the Journal de Geneve.

Although the Germans speak ostentatiously of Egypt, says the dispatch to the Journal, it is possible that they may make their principal efforts this winter from Bagdad toward the Persian Gulf.

Berlin, Dec. 8.—Advices from the front in Mesopotamia are that the Turks are continuing to operate vigorously against the British expedition along the Tigris River. They have driven the British into entrenchments at Kut El Amara and expelled them from the north bank of the Tigris.

The Turks continue to capture transport wagons attached to the expedition, a large portion of which were unable to reach Kut El Amara. The losses in transports, not only will prevent a new advance against Bagdad, but will endanger the further retreat of the expedition.

BOAT MAKES 36.4 KNOTS

Brookland, Maine, Dec. 8.—The Conyngham, the largest destroyer in the American Navy, exceeded her contract speed requirements by almost a full knot during her five top-speed runs over the Government's measured mile course yesterday.

The corrected figures for the trial showed that the average speed during the runs was at a rate of 36.4 knots an hour, while her contract called for a speed of 29 1-2 knots. Her estimated horsepower was 17,000. The Conyngham is the first of 1,000-ton type to receive her trial. She was built at the Cramp yards at Philadelphia and burns oil exclusively.

LOCAL BREVITIES

A. J. Wedderburn has sold to Julian D. Knight lots 2 and 3 in block 9 of George Washington Park.

The Phi Mu Sigma Fraternity of the M. E. Church, South held a class initiation last night and received eight new members into the chapter.

Services were held in St. Mary's Catholic Church today on account of the feast of the Immaculate Conception. Masses at 6, 8, and 9 o'clock were largely attended.

George Beavers, 40 years old, a former resident of Alexandria died in Washington yesterday. His remains will be brought to this city and his funeral will take place tomorrow from the chapel of B. Wheatley.

According to a petition filed yesterday in Washington for the probate of the will of Isabella Javins, widow of Charles N. Javins, formerly of Alexandria, she left an estate of realty valued at \$40,897 and personal property worth \$18,000. The estate is left to her two sons, John F. and Francis V. Javins.

GERMANY YIELDS

Captain Von Papen and Boy-Ed Will Be Recalled

Amsterdam, Dec. 8.—Germany has granted the request of the United States for the recall of Capt. von Papen and Capt. Boy-Ed, according to a dispatch from Berlin.

The decision of the German government is said to have been reached at the foreign office after careful consideration of the matter. Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador at Washington, is reported to have advised such a step and his advice was heeded on this matter in the same manner as on others in which he has treated with the American government.

It is expected, according to the Berlin advices, that the posts of military and naval attaches of the embassy at Washington will remain vacant for the remainder of the war.

RUSSIAN AGENT KILLS SELF

Col. Paramarevsky Commits Suicide in Wilmington

Wilmington, Del., Dec. 7.—Col. B. Paramarevsky, a representative of the Russian Government in this country to look after the performance of contracts for munitions, committed suicide here yesterday. The cause of the act is not known, but it is said he had been suffering from nervousness for some time. Neighbors tell of his having paced his room throughout an entire night at times.

The Colonel shot himself through the breast with an automatic revolver. The following note, written in ink and dated today, was found beside the dead man:

"Do not accuse anybody of my death."

The body was found by D. A. Zaart, the victim's roommate and business associate. Paramarevsky and Zaart had been in Wilmington about two months.

Mosley Will Address Daughters

Col. John S. Mosley, has wired his acceptance of an invitation to address the Daughters of the Confederacy in a meeting to be held in Bristol on the 14th instant. It is said that one thing which may attract the colonel at this time is the fact that he was promised by a pretty Bristol girl a kiss if he returned from the war with the marks of distinction becoming a brave soldier. That pretty "little miss" is now a widow of seventy years. She still possesses that vigor and grace of expression which has characterized her family, through many generations, and which has caused her mother to still be alive at almost the century mark. Of course if the widow is willing to carry out the promise at this late day, there is no one to stand in the way of the consummation of the deal.

To Taxpayers in the Annexed Territory

Notice is hereby given that the city tax bills of the Annexed Territory for 1915, are now in my hands, for collection. Owing to the delay in getting the bills ready, I will accept payment until December 15th, 1915, before adding the 5 per cent penalty. P. F. GOERMAN, City Tax Collector.

WOULD PROVIDE FOR WORKMEN

Senator Martin Asks That Law Be Enacted For Their Benefit

SEEKS SUM OF \$500,000

Would Have Sum Administered by Commission of Three Persons—Bills For Monuments

Washington, Dec. 8.—A Federal workmen's compensation bill, the object of which is to provide compensation for all employees of the government for injuries and for occupational diseases in the course of their employment, has been introduced in the Senate, by Senator Martin, of Virginia. The measure would extend the same compensation to government employees that is now extended to workmen employed by private corporations under State compensatory laws. Senator Martin feels that government employees are entitled to the same consideration extended the men employed by private firms when they are injured while at work.

The bill calls for an appropriation of \$500,000 to be known as the "employees' compensation." This fund is to be added to from time to time by Congress. The fund is to be managed and distributed by the "United States Employees' Compensation Commission," composed of three persons, to be appointed by the President and to be paid \$5,000 each annually as a salary.

The bill provides for medical examination of all persons entering the government service, and a scale of payments to be made to dependents of the proposed law.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Senator Martin, of Virginia, introduced yesterday a number of bills in the Senate, calling upon the Federal Government to honor the memory of Virginia soldiers, scientists and jurists. He asked \$25,000 with which to erect a monument at Abingdon to Gen. William Campbell, the Revolutionary hero who won the battle of King's Mountain. The sum of \$15,000 was asked to erect a memorial in the Federal court room at Richmond to Chief Justice John Marshall. He asks \$50,000 with which to erect in Washington a memorial to Admiral Matthew Fontaine Murray, the pathfinder of the seas. The Federal Government has refused to honor Commodore Maury's memory because he resigned from the Union Navy to join the Confederate forces.

Senator Martin also asks for \$100,000 with which to buy the land in Spotsylvania county on which was fought a series of battles in the Civil War. His idea is to convert this land into national military park. The sum of \$20,000 is asked to build a military highway from the railroad station at Fredericksburg to the National Cemetery. The sum of \$5,000 is asked to help defray the cost of erecting a memorial to Pocahontas, the Indian princess, on Jamestown Island.

The Virginia nominations sent to the Senate yesterday include the following: William H. Gale, to be consul-general of Class 5; Ernest Lester Jones, to be superintendent of the Coast and Geodetic Survey; George W. Harney, of Norfolk, to be supervising inspector in the Steamboat Inspection Service; Robert Page Cooke, Reuben Lindsay Robertson and Stuart McGuire, to be first lieutenants in the Medical Reserve Corps; Forrest M. Harrison, Virgil H. Carson, Paul D. Richmond, Jr., Leslie B. Wiggs, A. Marsteller and Arthur C. Sinton, to be assistant surgeons in Medical Reserve Corps.

ANTON LANG NOT KILLED.

Berlin, Dec. 8.—The report that Anton Lang, the famous Christus in the Passion Play, at Oberammergau, had been killed at the front is untrue. A representative of the Associated Press talked today with Herr Lang, who said he was well and happy and had never been to the front.

Salt Water Oysters At The Ram-Cafe.

A report of the mutiny of a Bulgarian infantry regiment has been received in Amsterdam from Frankfurt.

STEAMED OYSTERS AT JACOB BRILL'S FOOT OF KING STREET.

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SAYS WOMAN WAS SLAIN.

Washington Salesman Accuses Price of His Wife's Murder.

Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 8.—Charles D. Etchison, said to have signed a confession in Chicago, that he was an accomplice of Frederick T. Price in the alleged murder of Price's wife on November 28, 1914, went yesterday with officers to the place where he said Mrs. Price was thrown over a cliff.

Etchison, a traveling salesman, of Washington, and Price are under indictment for murder, but Price yesterday said that he was innocent of the death of his wife. Mary Fridley Price, a member of a leading Minnesota family, Price said his wife accidentally fell over the cliff. After her death, he sued the city of Minneapolis for \$7,500 damages for leaving the road side on the river bank unprotected. He later withdrew the suit. Price is also charged with bigamy, having had, it is said, three wives, without a divorce.

Etchison yesterday stood on the edge of the cliff over which Mrs. Price fell and said that on the night of her death she and her husband and himself were riding in an automobile. He said they stopped at the cliff and Mrs. Price left the car when her husband said there was engine trouble. He added the woman was then hurled over the embankment to the rocks below.

Etchison said that he and Price had descended to the bank. Etchison said he heard a sound that made him think Price was beating his wife with a stone.

Assistant County Attorney George Armstrong said Etchison had told him he alleged crime had preyed on his mind until he was compelled to confess. He said Etchison had asserted that the crime charged was planned or three months; that he had refused to participate despite an offer of \$1,000 for his services, but had finally consented after Price had followed him to the Pacific Coast.

Mrs. Price is said to have received \$50,000 from her father the day before her death.

Price, in his cell in the county jail here, said the confession alleged to have been made by Etchison that he had murdered his wife was untrue. "I deny it all," Price said. "There must be some mistake. Etchison and I were standing near by broken automobile, 20 feet from the spot where Mary fell to her death. I do not care to say anything further."

Etchison and his wife, in company with George Armstrong, assistant county attorney, arrived here shortly before noon. Armstrong said Mrs. Etchison fainted when she heard of her husband's confession. She said she would stand by him.

WOMEN BEFORE COMMITTEE

Speak for an Hour Yesterday in Behalf of Suffrage

Washington, Dec. 8.—Women suffragists and antisuffragists in stirring speeches debated the question of votes for women for an hour yesterday before the Democratic national committee.

The committee held a public session at the Willard to hear the women, and the hall was packed to the doors.

Six suffrage leaders told the committee that the women of the nation were looking to the Democratic party to champion a Federal suffrage amendment, either in the present Congress or in the platform of the next Democratic national convention. Two leaders of the national society opposed to suffrage argued that the party already had declared that suffrage is wholly a State question, and that, moreover, a majority of American women did not want to be enfranchised.

The committee took no action, but the members appeared to enjoy the debate thoroughly and applauded each speaker liberally.

Speaker Champ Clark was seated in the front row when the first suffrage delegation went to the platform. A committeeman proposed that he be escorted to a place of honor on the platform "Not on your life," said Mr. Clarke, and he remained on the floor.

A report of the mutiny of a Bulgarian infantry regiment has been received in Amsterdam from Frankfurt.

STEAMED OYSTERS AT JACOB BRILL'S FOOT OF KING STREET.

ASKS FOR MORE SCHOOL MONEY

State Board Would Have General Assembly Approropriate Additional Sum

INCREASED LEVIES

Copies of Stearnes' Plan Being Mailed to Legislators—Wants Total of \$9,635,340

Richmond, Dec. 8.—If the Virginia public school system is to be placed upon a basis as efficient as that in the average State in the Union \$9,635,340 a year will be required. This is, in round numbers, \$3,000,000 a year more than the schools are now receiving. If the Legislature will increase its appropriation by \$1,500,000 the remaining \$1,500,000 can be raised locally. The State appropriation can be increased by retaining the 10-cent school tax; the \$1,500,000 can be raised locally by increasing the cities and counties to increase their school levies to 50 cents in the \$100.

This is the summary of the recommendations which will be made to the General Assembly next month by Superintendent R. C. Stearnes, of the Department of Public Instruction. The recommendations have been drafted by Mr. Stearnes, and printed copies of them, with statistical information regarding Virginia's school system, are being mailed to every member of the Legislature.

The principle upon which the recommendations are based is that of setting the State and the counties and cities) bear the burden equally. The State will add \$1,500,000 a year to its appropriation for the public schools the counties and cities. Mr. Stearnes believes, will readily increase their school levies. In a number of the counties the levies are already 50 cents.

In the forty-eight States of the Union, Mr. Stearnes shows the average appropriation for the county school is \$30 per pupil per year. In Virginia only \$11.35 is spent. By the plan which Mr. Stearnes has worked out and which the members of the Legislature are being asked to consider the total appropriation will be so increased that \$20 per capita can be spent annually in the county schools and \$30 per capita in the city schools.

Mr. Stearnes makes his estimates upon the theory that the average monthly salary paid to school teachers should not be less than \$45; that there should not be more than thirty pupils to each teacher, and that the average school term should not be less than eight months.

In giving comparative figures and in discussing the proposed development of the school system, Mr. Stearnes, in his recommendations, says:

"The revenue of our public school system in 1905 was \$2,432,102.45. Our revenue during the year 1913-14 was between \$6,000,000 and \$6,500,000, and we have now reached the point where it seems wise to consider the expenditure of our public schools for the year 1913-14 with the idea of taking stock and determining what is needed in a financial way to give the people of this Commonwealth a system of schools, that shall accord in every way with the history and traditions of the State and with the ideals and hopes of a constituency which is aroused and enthusiastic on the subject of education. No one can doubt that the people of Virginia are now able to give every child in the State an education that will fit him for the duties of life, and it is equally true that no one can doubt the determination of the people to see that this high task is accomplished and that without delay."

LOST—In Rosemont, heavy leather strap with brass buckle and flat black-coiled spring. Return to 21 Rosemont avenue and receive reward. 6-31