

The Caldwell Watchman

VOL. 29

COLUMBIA, LOUISIANA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 1915

NO. 6

REFUSE GERMANY'S RIGHT IN BELGIUM

EXEQUATURS ISSUED TO AMERICAN CONSULS BY KING ALBERT IS STILL IN FORCE.

OFFICIAL NOTE TO BERLIN

Decision of the United States Has Been Awaited by Central and South America Governments.

Washington.—The United States has sent a formal note to Germany which, without discussing the sovereignty of Belgium, expresses a willingness to make such arrangements as may be necessary with the German military authorities in de facto control of Belgian territory for the continuance of American consular service there.

The American note should be delivered in Berlin now. Although the first note from Germany did not explicitly raise the issue, officials of the Washington government in making their reply carefully avoided any expression which could be construed as a political recognition of Germany's control of Belgium.

The decision of the United States has been awaited by Central and South American governments which instructed their diplomatic representatives here to discuss it in the Pan-American union.

No reference was made in either the German note or the American reply to the status of diplomatic officers. American Minister Brand Whitlock will continue at Brussels, where he is in active charge of Belgian relief work.

Gary Sees Prosperity.

New York.—E. H. Gary, chairman of the United States Steel Corporation and head of the Mayor's Committee on Unemployment, asserted that the pecuniary advantages to this country resulting from the war now are equal to the disadvantages. "The business men are on a better basis than ever before," he continued. Their management, their conduct, their business morals are improved.

To Argue Frank Case.

Washington.—Argument before the supreme court of Leo M. Frank's appeal in habeas corpus proceedings probably will be set for an early trial. Attorneys for Frank and for Georgia are preparing to submit a motion to advance the case. Should that be granted, a decision might be announced within a few weeks.

Carranza Men Retreat.

Washington.—Zapata forces were within four miles of Puebla when an official dispatch was filed from there to the state department and the Carranza defenders were reported loading artillery and equipment, apparently for retreat. The Carranza troops recently drove the Villa-Zapata army out of the city with heavy loss.

Subjects to Enlist.

London.—William Morris Hughes, acting premier of Australia, has issued an appeal for more recruits, says Reuter's Melbourne correspondent. Hughes says: "Every available man is needed for the front as soon as possible. The German power is not yet shattered and remains resolute with its strength unimpaired."

German Count Arrested.

Geneva.—The newspaper Stampa of Turin, Italy, announces that a British warship has arrested on board the liner Duc d'Aosta from Genoa for New York. Count von Keller a German officer of high rank who had been sent to the United States on a secret mission. The newspaper adds that the count has been landed at Gibraltar.

Kaiser's Health Good.

Berlin.—Count von Spee, who in times of peace is a preacher at Cologne, has sent a dispatch to Berlin from general headquarters in which he says he recently breakfasted with the emperor, who is in very good health and highly gratified at the German victory at Soissons.

Services Consolidated.

Washington.—The Senate agreed to the conference bill consolidating the life saving service and the revenue cutter service into the "coast guard." The house had already agreed to the report.

Vienna.—The final result of the subscriptions for the Austrian war loan, it is officially announced, amounted to \$670,000,000. Of that sum Austria contributed \$433,000,000 and Hungary \$237,000,000.



SENOR ENRIQUE JIMENEZ
Senor Jimenez, the fourth Dominican minister to the United States, has arrived in Washington to succeed Eduardo Solor. He has occupied a number of high positions in his country.

LIGHT IS THROWN ON "UPHEAVAL IN MEXICO"

ACCUSE VILLA AND ZAPATA OF CRIMINAL CONDUCT, DEPOSING THEM OF COMMANDS.

Washington.—General Francisco Villa, commander-in-chief of the forces controlled by the convention in session at Mexico City, is due to reach the capital to assist Colonel Roque Gonzalez Garza, selected by the convention as temporary executive to succeed General Eulalio Gutierrez. Advice to this effect reached the state department, together with the information that while the capital was quite well protected and policed, there had been some executions for disorders, and the populace was uneasy over the general situation. Light was thrown on the conduct of Gutierrez by the receipt from Vera Cruz of letters said to have been exchanged between General Gutierrez, Obregon and Aguilar, dated January 9, apparently the time when Gutierrez announced to the convention that he was working on plans for the pacification of Mexico. Briefly his plan was to unite with Generals Obregon and Aguilar in deposing General Villa from control of the convention forces. Elizaro Rondono, head of the Villa agent here, made public the text of the correspondence.

Dissolve Bank.

Chicago.—An order dissolving the defunct La Salle Street Trust & Savings Bank, of which William Lorimer was president and Charles B. Munday vice president, was entered in the circuit court in a suit filed last June by James J. Brady, state auditor, when the bank was closed. Lorimer and Munday face indictments on charges of having wrongfully used the bank's funds.

\$150,000 For Arkansas River.

Washington.—Representatives Taylor and Jacobway and other members of the Arkansas delegation won a hard-fought victory when the Rivers and Harbors Committee agreed to appropriate \$150,000 for continued improvement of the Arkansas river. This is the only amendment that has been added to the river and harbor bill so far.

Lumber Rate Suspended.

Washington.—The Interstate Commerce Commission suspended from January 20 until May 20 the proposed new individual and joint rates on lumber from Southern points to Ohio River crossings over the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Pacific Railway. Their reasonableness will be investigated by the commission.

Earthquake Relief.

Rome.—Six million dollars having been placed at the disposal of the Italian authorities for alleviation of conditions in the earthquake area, extensive relief works are being planned. It is expected the most serious conditions soon will have been greatly improved. Shacks for housing the homeless will be erected as rapidly as possible; buildings not destroyed will be repaired; roads cleared and agricultural and business life restored to normal.

GERMANS SHOWING RENEWED ACTIVITY.

SMALL GAINS ARE REPORTED—BOTH SIDES ATTACK VIGOROUSLY.

ATTACK MADE ON DUNKIRK

No Confirmation From Official Sources of the Reported Visit of the Allies.

London.—Although official descriptions of fighting on the western front continue to be brief, there is evidence that it is growing fiercer at many points. The Germans are showing renewed activity in the neighborhood of Ypres, and heavy bombardments of the left wing of the allies are almost incessant.

From the center eastward, however, the battles are most bitter. In the Argonne, around Verdun and in Alsace, heavy engagements are in progress, apparently without any decision having been reached. But these are merely local affairs compared to what is expected when the ground becomes more suitable for moving troops.

Along the Belgian coast every move of the Germans is the signal for a renewed bombardment by the British ships, while the aviators of both forces are continually dropping bombs behind the lines.

Dunkirk has been separated out for a German air attack, doubtless because it is being used by the British as a base of supplies from England, while Ostend, Bruges and Zeebrugge are receiving attention from the allies for a similar reason. There is no confirmation from official sources of the reported visit of the allies' airmen to Essen and Dusseldorf early in the week.

British Seize American Ship.

Washington.—The state department has requested of the British government information of why the American steamer Greenbrier, from New Orleans to Bremen, with cotton under certificate of the British consul at New York, was stopped by a British cruiser sent under the British flag to a British port and detained two days before being allowed to complete her voyage to Bremen.

Child Found Buried Alive.

Avezano, Italy.—At Capelle, soldiers found a seven-year-old boy who had been protected by a fire place from the falling masonry of his home. He had been able to feed himself with food within his reach and was in good condition except that he had suffered from cold. All relatives of the youngster lost their lives.

Ships Cotton Freely.

Washington.—The Italian foreign office has assured the American embassy at Rome that cotton may now be shipped freely "to order" with no embargo on its re-exportation which was placed on it last December by a decree forbidding the re-shipment of any article on the Italian embargo list which included cotton.

Telephone Ownership.

Washington.—Government acquisition of all telephone properties was advocated before the House postoffice committee by Representative Lewis of Maryland, who declared the telephone companies had pre-empted a profitable function properly belonging to the government.

More Guns For England.

New York.—Two 16-inch guns, weighing nearly 75 tons apiece, were washed to the deck of the Cunarder Transylvania when she sailed for Liverpool. The guns, made by the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, were consigned to a shipbuilding company at Belfast.

Bombs on Bruges.

Amsterdam.—A British airman dropped bombs on the important Bruges, Belgium docks, according to news which has reached here. The result of the attack is not yet known. The aviator escaped unhurt, although he was attacked by the Germans.

American Sailors Released.

Berlin.—William T. Fee, American consul at Bremen, replying to a telegraphic inquiry regarding the arrest by German authorities of American sailors composing the crews of the American steamships Greenbrier and Carolyn, after the vessels had carried cotton cargoes to Bremen said: "Only three men from the Greenbrier and three men from the Carolyn were held here, owing to their doubtful nationality. Then, before the departure of the steamers, the men were released."



ANTONIO SALANDRA
Prof. Antonio Salandra, premier of Italy, who is having a difficult time keeping his country out of the European war.

MERCHANT VESSEL SUNK BY GERMANS

IT IS THE BELIEF THAT KAISER PLANS SYSTEMATIC RAID ON BRITISH SHIPPING.

London.—The British steamer Durward, a Reuter dispatch from Rotterdam says, has been torpedoed by a German submarine. The crew was saved.

The Durward was a vessel of 1,300 tons, built at Glasgow in 1895 and owned by G. Gibson & Co. of Leith, Scotland.

The Durward was bound from Leith to Rotterdam and was struck by the torpedo, according to the Reuter correspondent, while 22 miles off the Maas lightship. The crew took to the boats and reached the lightship from which a Dutch pilot boat conveyed them to Rotterdam.

News dispatches referring to the situation in Poland set forth that north of the Vistula, in the vicinity of Lipno, Russian advance guards are within 20 miles of the German frontier, while to the northwest the Germans have evacuated Skempe, which is about 25 miles from the Prussian border and due southeast of Thorn.

If the Russians follow up their success at Skempe and continue their forward movement, it will give them an unbroken front, in the opinion of British observers, dangerously near German territory.

Army's Biggest Gun.

Boston.—The army's biggest gun, recently finished at Watervliet arsenal for defense of the Panama Canal, and which is capable of throwing a 2,400-pound shell 21 miles, was brought to the Watertown arsenal for its carriage. The gun is 56 feet long. It required a specially constructed freight car for transportation here.

Allies Borrow Three Billion Dollars.

Paris.—A conference was held in Paris by the British chancellor of the exchequer, David Lloyd-George, and Alexandre Ribot and P. Dark, the French and Russian ministers of finance. It is said that the meeting was arranged to consider a joint loan of \$3,000,000 to bear interest of 3 1/2 per cent.

Lumber Rates Retained.

Washington.—The carriers lost their case before the Interstate Commerce Commission in regard to rates on lumber from points in Louisiana to points in Texas, when the Interstate Commerce Commission handed down a decision denying the proposed cancellation of through rates. In addition to lumber, the other forest products, including ties, would have been affected seriously. The case which brought forth the decision is that of the Sigor Tie Company versus the Louisiana Railroad and Navigation Co.

Bridge Bill Will Be Passed.

Washington.—The House committee on Interstate and foreign commerce, to whom was referred the bill to amend an act entitled "An act to authorize the Arkansas & Memphis Railroad Bridge & Terminal Company to construct, maintain and operate a bridge across the Mississippi river at Memphis, Tenn." approved August 8, 1912, having considered the same, report thereon with a recommendation that it pass.

SPIRITED REPLY MADE BY BARROW

EXPLAINS RAILROAD BOARD'S STAND IN FIGHT OVER FREIGHT TARIFFS.

SPECIAL MEETING IS HELD

Resolutions Adopted Taking the Rail Board to Task For Not Asking For Funds of Board of Liquidation.

Baton Rouge.

Smarting under the criticism, by the Shreveport Chamber of Commerce, of the Louisiana Railroad commission, which he styles as entirely unwarranted and unjust. Assistant Attorney General W. M. Barrow, who is also attorney for the rail board, has issued a statement explaining the attitude of the commission and the part it has played thus far in the fight of the states west of the Mississippi river against proposed advances in freight rates by the railroads.

The Shreveport organization held a special session adopting resolutions taking the rail board to task for not asking for funds of the Board of Liquidation with which to contribute to the general fund raised by the shippers of the western states to carry on the freight rate fight. Mr. Barrow, in his statement, expresses much surprise over this action. To show that the criticism was not warranted, he asserts that, following letters received from commercial organizations in Shreveport, Baton Rouge, Lake Charles and Lafayette, the Railroad Commission adopted resolutions protesting against the proposed advances and turned these resolutions over to the assistant attorney general to file with the Interstate Commerce Commission. These, Mr. Barrow asserts, were forwarded to Clifford Thorne, of Iowa, chairman of a committee named by the shippers of the western states to handle the fight, and thereafter a protest was filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission in the name of the Louisiana Commercial organization.

STATE HAPPENINGS.

The farmers short course of the Louisiana State University opened with the largest attendance in its history and with agricultural leaders in every part of the state as pupils. Among them was Dr. J. N. Thomas, of the state insane asylum, who returned to the school after 34 years, accompanied by several members of his board. President T. D. Boyd of the university opened the session, commenting on the need for taking advantage of all scientific help, the eagerness for knowledge evident, and the university's desire to place itself at the disposal of the farmers.

Following an exhaustive investigation of the expenditure of highway funds the grand jury has reported that they find no room for criticism either of expenditures or of the manner in which the highways are being constructed. The report shows that roads now under construction will cost \$638,000, of which amount \$358,000 has been paid out, and that the highways on which work will commence later in the year will require an expenditure of \$208,000.

The Supreme Court refused to grant a writ of certiorari, mandamus and prohibition, applied for by Chas. T. Dunbar, directed to Judge Theard, requiring him to show cause why his order requiring that the testimony of Dunbar be taken in the contemplated suit of the Orleans-Kenner Electric Railway Company against the New Orleans Railway and Light Company et al., should not be rescinded.

The commission council of Lake Charles has a gas franchise for sale and will advertise at once for bids. W. E. Barrett, a New York gas engineer and probable bidder for the franchise has deposited \$100 with the commissioners to cover the cost of advertising. The franchise will run for twenty years and calls for a plant of 100,000 cubic feet minimum daily capacity, and twelve miles of mains.

The Parish of West Carroll having decided to move the parish seat from Floyd is now engaged in a three-cornered fight between the advocates of Forest, Pioneer and Oak Grove. It is reported that as the issue will be decided by a general election of all electors and not in a primary all three factions have been registering negroes, whose poll taxes were paid in unusual number in 1914.

How Secretary Summerlin of the Tensas levee board was "led to understand" that Attorney General Pleasant and Governor Hall favored the land deal compromise became part of the probe commissioner's record. Judge H. F. Maddison of Bastrop, explained a compromise he effected which had to do with a clause in the 1898 contract.

In answer to questions from the probers, Mr. Summerlin said that no advice on the land deal compromise was sought by the levee board, except that of Henry Bornstein. He is the attorney for the Tensas Delta Land Company, who refused to testify before the commission.

A telegram was read to the levee board before the compromise became effective, and in it the attorney general was represented as saying that the matter of compromise was an "administrative matter, up to the governor." This was one of the things which led Mr. Summerlin to "understand" that the attorney general wasn't opposed to the compromise.

Attorney General Pleasant said during the recess of the commission, that he will show by witnesses and documents that he unequivocally told President Gilbert of the levee board that he was opposed to the compromise. He did say it was "up to the governor," but he added to this statement, at the time it was given, that he was opposed to any compromise.

Failing to obey a ruling ordered to change the name of Edenborn to Gonzales, La., the Louisiana Railway and Navigation Company has been cited by the Louisiana Railroad Commission to show cause why it should not be fined. Several months ago the commission ordered the change in names after an all-day hearing of a controversy between citizens of the town and the railroad. The postoffice has been known as Gonzales since it was first settled. When the Louisiana Railway and Navigation Company established a station there it named the station Edenborn. Citizens claim the difference of names lead to continual confusion in the delivering of letters and packages.

In spite of the cold and rainy weather a good attendance was on hand to hear a very interesting talk on the subject of Irish Potato culture, delivered by M. L. Wilson, U. S. agricultural demonstrator, who spoke under the auspices of D. T. Barland. Mr. Wilson urged upon the farmers the necessity of diversification in crop culture, in view of the present cotton crisis and recommended the planting of potatoes as a division crop. Mr. Wilson laid particular stress upon the use of proper fertilizers and its proper application. Recommending the use of acid phosphates, cotton seed meal, and sulphate of potash in equal mixtures and applying at the rate of 600 pounds per acre.

Glen Fleming of New Orleans, former secretary of the Monroe Fair Association, is here in the interest of the Louisiana exhibit to be made at the Panama-Pacific exposition at San Francisco, which opens February 20. Mr. Fleming will appear before the police jury Saturday and ask for an appropriation to supplement that made by the state and a number of enterprising citizens. Every police jury in the state has been asked for assistance and responses are being made in appropriations running from \$100 to \$500.

The ouster proceedings to be brought against William L. Young, bank examiner by the District Attorney, W. A. Mabry, at Shreveport, under the direction of Attorney General Pleasant, who will act on the orders of Governor Hall, are expected to be resisted by Young on two grounds, that his term has not expired and that no person may qualify for the office without the confirmation of the Senate.

An election will be held in the Alexandria ward to allow voters to pass upon the proposed \$100,000 bond issue to be devoted to good roads work. A meeting in the interest of the proposition will be held at the Horseshoe Schoolhouse, when members of the police jury and Chamber of Commerce will speak. A meeting will also be held at the city hall which will be addressed by the same speakers.

The corn crib on C. H. Landy's Riverdale plantation a short distance below Donaldsonville was destroyed by fire. About 5,250 barrels of corn and 100 sacks of bran were stored in the building. An adjoining structure containing a corn crusher and mill was also destroyed. The total loss is estimated at \$5,000, with no insurance.

The railroad commission has declined to reduce the rate on beer out of Alexandria to a point where it would be carried at a lower tariff than bread, or chickens, or eggs, or any of the commodities that are considered the necessities of life.