

TO GUARD NEUTRAL RIGHTS.

CABINET DISCUSSES MEANS OF FORCING OBEYSANCE OF LAWS.

All Departments Will Work Together to Prevent Misuse of American Freedom by Other Nations.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Plans of the administration to prevent or punish violations of American neutrality were discussed today at a long conference in the office of Secretary Lansing among the members of the cabinet whose departments are most closely connected with such subjects. The meeting was called at the suggestion of President Wilson, who declared in his message to congress yesterday that "the hand of our power" should at once close over and crush out "creatures of passion, disloyalty and anarchy" who seek to make the United States a hotbed of European passion.

Attorney General Gregory, Postmaster General Burleson and Secretaries Garrison and McAdoo spent more than an hour with Secretary Lansing. They went into detail as to the best ways to carry out the president's expressed desires.

Every member of the official family present is directly concerned in preventing neutrality violations. The postoffice department, with its crops of inspectors, the treasury department through the secret service, and the department of justice through its bureau of investigation are equipped to detect any offenses of this character. As recently announced by the attorney general, the facts gathered by agents other than those of the department of justice will be given to that department for action, but each branch of the government will look into any suspicious circumstances coming to its notice and where there is ground for action it will be taken promptly.

Within the next few weeks, Mr. Gregory is expected to bring to the attention of congress the need for additional legislation to safeguard the nation's neutrality. Suggestions have been made to him for more than 100 amendments to existing laws, which officials who have investigated think will cover the entire ground and which if on the statute books at present could be used to prosecute many offenders escaping because of lack of laws under which prosecution could be brought.

It was said tonight that there had been no conflicts between the various departments in investigations of neutrality violation but rather a failure to coordinate and cooperate. There was said to be no present idea to attempt to consolidate the work of detection under any one department.

No specific cases or circumstances were before cabinet officers today, the discussion being devoted to the general subject.

WILL SATISFY BERLIN.

Lansing's Explanation Probably Will be Enough.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Secretary Lansing's communication to the German government giving the reasons for his request that Capt. Carl Boye and Capt. Franz von Papen, respectively naval and military attaches of the embassy here, be immediately recalled, probably will satisfy Germany. At least this is said to be the view of Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, and likewise of officials here.

In that event, it is believed here, the German government may instruct the ambassador to send the attaches away without further delay.

Secretary Lansing is said to have informed Germany that the naval and military activities of the attaches were their principal offenses.

REPUBLICANS WILL COOPERATE.

Will Support Preparedness Program if Matter is Kept on Non-partisan Basis.

Washington, Dec. 8.—As the result of a conference with Senator Gallinger, the Republican leader, President Wilson will not countenance a Democratic caucus on the preparedness program. Senator Gallinger told the president that while Republicans do not favor all his suggestions they are willing to cooperate if the issue is kept strictly on non-partisan ground.

GRANTS TOLBERT REPRIEVE.

Governor Allows Time for Presentation of Evidence Before State Pardons Board.

Columbia, Dec. 9.—Gov. Manning has granted a reprieve of 60 days to Albert Tolbert, the young white man under sentence of death for a Greenwood county for killing his wife more than a year ago. The reprieve was granted in order that the case may go before the State board of pardons for review. Tolbert was to have been electrocuted at the State penitentiary on December 10,

STUDY RURAL CREDITS.

Osteen and Thackston Will Confer at Charleston With David Lubin, Specialist.

Columbia, Dec. 7.—H. G. Osteen of Sumter and T. B. Thackston of Cedar Springs were appointed yesterday by Gov. Manning as members of a State commission to meet David Lubin, an authority on rural credits, at a conference in Charleston next week during the Southern Commercial congress. Mr. Lubin was the representative from the United States in the International Institute on Agriculture last year in Italy.

Gov. Manning will probably discuss the question of rural credits in his message to the general assembly. He will confer with Messrs. Thackston and Osteen following their conference in Charleston with Mr. Lubin.

POTASH SOURCES IN PLANTS.

Seaweed, Marsh Grass, Marsh Sedge, and Pine Straw Available to South Carolina Farmers.

Clemson College, Dec. 7.—Among the sources of potash available to South Carolina farmers are several plant materials, some of which are in the reach of most of the farmers of this State. Such materials, are marsh grass, marsh sedge, seaweed, and pine straw. Analyses of these materials made by the chemist of the South Carolina Experiment Station at Clemson College showed results as follows:

Four samples of marsh grass contained, respectively, .84 per cent, 2.39 per cent, 1.16 per cent, and 1.99 per cent, potash.

A sample of dead marsh sedge contained .93 per cent, potash.

Two samples of marsh sedge ashes contained, respectively, .18 per cent, and 1.38 per cent, potash.

A sample of seaweed contained 5.85 per cent, potash.

A sample of short-leaf pine straw contained .21 per cent, potash.

A sample of long-leaf pine straw contained .41 per cent, potash.

Marsh grass, says the station chemist, contains not only potash, but also a considerable quantity of nitrogen and a small quantity of phosphorus. Gather all such materials green because the potash rapidly leaches out of the dead material. This fact proves its value when applied to land, for it is water-soluble potash.

Short-leaf or long-leaf pine straw is present on practically every farm in South Carolina and its plant food content is realized by very few farmers. Moreover, it makes an excellent litter for bedding animals.

FEED FOR COWS.

Cheaper Food than Cotton Seed Meal and Hulls.

The Sumter Chamber of Commerce receiving a number of requests to supply information from expert authorities regarding suitable and more economical rations for milk cows due to the high price of cotton seed meal has secured the following from Clemson College for the information of owners of milk cows:

In view of the fact that cotton seed meal has reached its present high level, we urge you to substitute home-grown grain feeds as much as possible in the ration you give your cows this winter. Cottonseed meal and hulls do not make a balanced ration and by substituting some other grains you can improve the feeding value of your ration and at the same time save money. Home-grown feeds should be given the first consideration in seeking a substitute for cottonseed meal.

The following rations are suggested as a sample:

One part cottonseed meal.

One part corn-and-cob meal or rice meal.

One part wheat bran.

One part ground oats can be added to the above ration or substituted for either the corn and cob meal or wheat bran. If wheat bran sells for more than \$39 a ton, the following mixture is good:

One-half cottonseed meal.

One-half corn-and-cob meal, ground oats or rice meal.

Feed one pound of either of the above mixtures for every 3 pounds of milk the cow gives daily.

Cowpea hay is bringing low prices. It can be used to great advantage in the cow's ration. If the cows have free access to racks of corn stover or cut straw and are given 10 pounds of cowpea hay a day, one pound of the above grain mixtures can be fed for every four pounds of milk given.

Do not let the present high price of meal discourage you in the dairy business. Feed your cows liberally on home-grown feeds. The man who sells his cows or cuts their rations when feed is high never has any high-producing cows. The dairy cow is the means of converting home-grown feeds into cash, while all the skim-milk and manure remain on the farm. These by-products are invaluable to you in maintaining the soil fertility of your farm.

RETURN TO WORK.

Plants at Graniteville and Clearwater Resume Operation Giving Employment to Many.

Aiken, Dec. 6.—After weeks of enforced idleness, more than 1,000 operatives returned to work yesterday morning in the mills at Graniteville and Clearwater, the receivers of the Graniteville Manufacturing company having perfected ample financial arrangements to resume operation and to run the mills of the company indefinitely. Five hundred bales of cotton had been bought and stored in the company's warehouses and it is understood that the first loan secured on receivers' certificates amounted to a little more than \$250,000.

There has been more or less suffering among the people of Graniteville and Vauluse during the period the mills have been closed in spite of the fact that house rent has been given free and between 4,000 and 5,000 people have been affected. With winter coming on the suffering would soon have grown more acute but for the early resumption of operations.

ORGANIZED LABOR HOODWINKED.

Beguiled Into Joining Peace Council and Then Accused of Conspiracy.

Chicago, Dec. 7.—That labor has been "made the goat" in the organization of the National Labor Peace Council was the declaration of Second Vice President Kramer of the American Federation of Labor today. Mr. Kramer declared that Congressman Buchanan, of Chicago, and Former Congressman Fowler were the prime movers in the organization and paid all the bills. Then Buchanan and Fowler spread the reports that organized labor was causing strikes to prevent the manufacture of munitions. When this was done labor leaders withdrew from the peace council and it practically fell through. President Gompers substantiated the Kramer's statement.

CONGRESS UNDER WAY.

Bill Providing for Non Partisan Tariff Commission Introduced by Champ Clark.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Speaker Clark today introduced a resolution providing for a non-partisan tariff commission. The resolution was introduced at the request of the Hardware Manufacturers' Association. Senator Hitchcock introduced a bill abolishing the trade in "war orders" and eliminating private concerns from manufacturing munitions.

WOULD RECALL MAYOR.

Petition Against Jim Woodward of Atlanta.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 6.—The recall of Mayor James G. Woodward was demanded in a petition filed here today with the city council. The petition contains 3,235 names, or 309 more than the 25 per cent. of the registered vote of the city required by the Georgia recall law.

The filing of the petition is an outgrowth of the fight which resulted several months ago in the removal by the police board, of which the mayor is a member, of J. L. Beavers, chief of police. Petitions asking the recall of Police Commissioners James W. English, Edwin F. Johnson, Robert C. Clark, Robert T. Pace, Andrew Kind and W. P. Fain were expected to be filed today, but delays in completing necessary clerical work caused them to be held up. It is expected they will be filed tomorrow.

The petition filed today asks the city council to meet next Monday and set a date for the recall election. It is expected, however, that the date will not be set for some time, as champions of Mayor Woodward and the other officials have indicated that the validity of the names on the petitions and other matters connected with the recall will be contested in the courts.

ONE-YEAR RULE.

And Summer Baseball Big Question for S. I. A. A.

Clemson College, Dec. 6.—The one-year rule which last year threatened to disrupt the association, and summer baseball, are the principal questions to be discussed at the meeting of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association to be held in New Orleans, December 10 and 11, according to an announcement made here today by W. M. Riggs, president of the association. "The fate of the association probably hinges on this meeting," President Riggs declared.

Pickers and Shoppers.

When the strawberries are ripe the luckiest visitors to the bed are those who go earliest and pick over the vines first.

In the month of December the stores are much like strawberry beds. Christmas goods and "goodies" are ripe. The early shopper is the wise one.—Columbia State,

BAKER TAKES CHAIR.

Secretary of Body Presides Until Organization of Upper House is Effected.

Washington, Dec. 6.—A distinct compliment, and one that will probably be long remembered him, was paid Secretary James M. Baker of the senate today. When the time came for calling the senate to order so that routine business might be transacted, it was found that the president pro tem, Senator Clarke of Arkansas, was disqualified because his last term had expired and he had not been yet sworn in as a new member and that Vice President Marshall was absent on account of sickness. In this contingency Mr. Baker, for the first time in the history of the senate, was called upon to open the proceedings and preside over that body until an organization could be effected.

When Mr. Baker came down from the presiding officer's chair he was warmly complimented upon his excellent knowledge of parliamentary procedure.

PRIOLEAU BRINGS CONTEST.

Files Protest Against Seating of Congressman Whaley of First District.

Washington, Dec. 6.—Aaron P. Prioleau, a negro, who for 16 years has contested all elections to congress from the Charleston district, today filed a contest against the seating of Richard C. Whaley. Five other contests were filed in the house.

MOST REMARKABLE MESSAGE.

President Wilson Speaks to Congress in Words of Wisdom and Warning.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Standing erect behind the reading desk in the house President Wilson personally delivered to the joint session of congress the most remarkable message in the recent history of the United States. He called on congress to unite in assembling all the resources of the nation into one mighty weapon for defense. He not only called for anticipated increases in the army and navy but also demanded the mobilization of the entire industrial resources of the country. The president also denounced in words of vitriolic force those citizens of this country who had taken part in the attempts to violate the nation's neutrality and asked for the enactment of laws to punish them in the future. Never in the memory of the oldest employees has a president been so closely guarded. Besides the large body guard, plain clothes men swarmed through the corridors.

TEST COTTON PICKER.

York Citizens Saw What Invention Will Actually Do.

York News. On Friday afternoon a large number of York people interested in the Carolina Cotton Picker company, accompanied by a disinterested committee, journeyed out to make a test of the Brown Neill Cotton picker, recently perfected by Mr. Neill. The test took place on the C. E. Spencer farm in the Filbert neighborhood and stockholders of the company say that it was very pleasing to them.

Mr. Neill had charge of the picker and two rows were gone over by the machine. After the cotton had been picked once by the machine, the remainder was picked by hand and two separate bags of cotton were brought to York and weighed, when it was found that the machine had actually picked 67 per cent. of what cotton there was in the field. The committee selected for the work said that they were astonished at what the machine really could do.

NOTICE SERVED ON BRYAN.

To be Questioned Concerning Sale of Warships.

New York, Dec. 6.—William Jennings Bryan, former Secretary of State, has been served at his hotel here, it was announced today, with an order signed by Supreme Court Justice Geigerich requiring him to appear Saturday for examination regarding the transactions connected with the sale by the United States government to Greece of two battleships.

Mr. Bryan is to be asked whether any secrets of fire-control, aiming or other control of the guns of the war vessels sold were confided to the Greek government.

The order was secured in connection with a libel suit brought by Petros P. Tatanis, a Greek resident of this city, against a Greek newspaper and Solon J. Vlasto and Demetrios J. Vlasto.

Marriage License Record.

Licenses to marry have been issued to Joe Butler and Anna Rees, Sumter; Harvey Wilson and Rebecca Hooks, Sumter; Sammie Green and Florence Davis, Wedgefield.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Plans for Next Year's Campaign Discussed.

The directors of the Sumter Chamber of Commerce had a long meeting yesterday and discussed plans for the 1916 operations of the organization, and for cooperation between the city council and Chamber of Commerce, and the citizens generally for the upbuilding of Sumter.

Water Works Department Land Suggested for a City Park.

The directors decided to respectfully suggest to city council that the thirty-five or forty acres of land belonging to the water works department be turned into a city park. They will ask council to immediately begin the setting out of pecan trees or other suitable shade trees, pecan preferred by the directors, on the water works land. That the grounds be laid off in streets preparatory to the completion of the park plans.

Public Forum for Sumter During 1916—Monthly Mass Meetings.

It was also decided that there will be held monthly mass meetings of the citizens of Sumter during 1916 under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce, and cooperating with the Retail Dealers' Association, Civic League, City Council, City Board of Education, County Commissioners, County Farmers' Union, Y. M. C. A. and other civic and welfare organizations, for discussion of various matters of general public interest.

It is intended that these meetings will be a forum at which may be discussed almost any matter of public interest for the city and county, and at which plans may be put in motion for the carrying out of a number of matters. The citizens generally of the county and city will be invited to these meetings. The directors believe that if the citizens of the city and county get together often for discussion of public affairs, looking to the improvement of conditions and discuss these matters intelligently that the meetings will result in bringing out many matters that will prove beneficial to Sumter and Sumter county.

Dollar Get-together Dinner During Last Week of December.

The managing secretary was directed to call the entertainment committee together and ask this committee to arrange for a dollar get-together dinner under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce some evening during the last week in December.

December 30th was selected, but Secretary Reardon was notified today of the big dance in Sumter that evening and the supper date of the Chamber will be changed to the 28th or 29th. At this dinner the business and professional men will discuss a number of matters pertaining to the commercial, industrial, financial, and agricultural welfare of the city and county. Local speakers will address the meeting on selected subjects.

On the first Monday in January there will be held at the county court house a mass meeting of the farmers of Sumter county and the bankers and merchants of Sumter to discuss plans for putting on additional cream routes and the establishment of a creamery in Sumter, to formulate systematic plans for preparing for the approach of the boll weevil, such as making this a live stock, grain and dairy section, the raising of more poultry, truck, fruits, etc. and the reduction of the cotton acreage.

Dr. W. W. Long, of Clemson College, with probably a dairy expert, will be invited to address this meeting.

Produce Exchange Manager Wanted.

The Chamber of Commerce is anxious to secure a competent and experienced man who is willing to manage a country produce exchange in Sumter for the handling of grain, truck, etc. One who is willing to purchase the produce from the farmers on market quotations.

This is a much needed enterprise in Sumter. The necessity for convenient marketing facilities in Sumter is recognized by the business men of Sumter, and efforts are to be put forth to furnish same if possible at the earliest possible date.

The inauguration of the dairy, live stock, poultry, truck, and grain growing industries to get ready for the boll weevil means that the farmers must have means of disposing of these products. Unless the farmers are assured that they will be able to dispose of their surplus of produce at a reasonable profit they will produce in limited quantities only.

The dollar dinner and the county mass meeting will discuss these matters intelligently.

The necessity for improvement of the country public highways was discussed at length by the directors at the meeting yesterday, particularly some of the main highways leading into Sumter.

Public Forum Will be of Great Value to Sumter.

The monthly meetings to be held

during 1916 will be made as attractive and interesting as possible. The directors seemed to be much interested in these coming meetings in which all citizens of the city and county will be invited in true democratic style to express their opinions upon any matters of public interest, such as municipal or county government, civic improvements, educational, public health, commercial and agricultural conditions or necessities. The bringing together of the organized forces of the city and county, and the mingling together of citizens, male and female for cooperative and educational purposes will do a great deal of good if the meetings are attended as they ought to be.

SPENT MILLION ON ROADS.

Commissioner Watson Writes on Progress of Road Construction in South Carolina.

Columbia, Dec. 9.—Reporting on the progress of road construction in South Carolina during the past year Commissioner Watson says in an article prepared for a magazine:

"On the financial side of the matter, we have received reports as to the grand totals of revenues for road purposes derived from the general road tax, which vary according to the counties, from all but nine counties, and the grand total thus derived from taxation is \$883,052.22. Estimating the other nine counties, this would mean that \$1,000,000 was spent in this State for roads for the year 1915.

"In addition to the above, since 1910, in seven counties, road and bridge bonds were voted to the extent of \$249,500, \$238,000 of these bonds having been sold. In three of those counties the bonds are 20-year bonds and in the others 40-year bonds. In each of the counties, with the exception of one, the rate of interest paid on the bonds is 4 1-2 and 5 per cent. In one county 6 per cent. is paid on an issue of \$25,000.

"With three counties not yet reported, there are 3,808 miles of sand-clay roads, 17,219 miles of graded and drainage earth roads, 36,055 miles of unimproved, ungraded earth or sand-clay roads, 3 1-2 miles of macadam mixed with bitumen, 18 miles of plain macadam, 30 miles of gravel, 53 1-2 miles of shell and 600 miles of other hard-surfaced roads. The total mileage of roads, therefore, in the State covering all classes and kinds is 47,791."

ENTERTAIN FOR YOUNG WOMEN.

Missionary Social Union Committee Gives Introduction Party to Magneto Girls.

On Tuesday afternoon a committee of the Missionary Social Union entertained in the rest rooms of the Magneto Factory in honor of the young ladies who are employed there and the hundred or more of the girls who accepted the invitation found the occasion a most enjoyable one. The committee of the Missionary Social Union had requested a number of young ladies from the city to assist them in receiving and entertaining their guests and all found the occasion which was in the nature of an "Introduction Party," where the Missionary Social Union committee met the young ladies, most interesting.

Refreshments of coffee and sandwiches were served and music was furnished on a Victrola. The ladies of the Union, which is composed of members of all of the churches in the city, were assisted in their entertainment by the officers of the factory, the efforts of all being to furnish a little amusement for the working girls and to make them feel at home in Sumter. In fact so successful was this "introduction party" that the Missionary Social Union expects to give other similar receptions to these young ladies each month.

OFFERS FOR NAVAL SERVICE.

Daniels Says it Now Has Waiting List and Picks its Men Carefully.

New York, Dec. 8.—The United States navy has a waiting list at its recruiting offices and accepts only one in six of the men who apply for enlistment. Secretary Daniels told members of the Southern Society of New York tonight, speaking at the society's annual banquet on "The Navy." When he took office, the secretary said, there were 4,053 vacancies in the authorized enlisted personnel of 51,000, but as a result of the steps taken to make the service more attractive to young men of proper qualifications, this has been overcome and in addition the proportion of reenlistments has risen from 54 per cent. to 82 per cent., "which means the securing of men of long training for the service."

Unpleasantly Reminiscent.

"Mrs. Nurich, I understand your husband is one of the stewards of the racing association." "Look here, young man, my husband gave up cookin' years ago and I'd rather you wouldn't refer to it."—Buffalo Express,