

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear Not—Let all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June 1, 1866.

CONSOLIDATED AUG. 2, 1881.

Sumter, S. C., Wednesday, January 25, 1922

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POINCARÉ INSPIRES CONFIDENCE

New Premier Has the United and Enthusiastic Support of the Chamber of Deputies

Paris, Jan. 19.—Raymond Poincaré, president of the republic during the war and now premier of France, with the French chamber practically unanimously behind him, served notice on Germany today that so long as he held office in conducting the destinies of his country Germany must fulfill the obligations she entered upon at Versailles and may expect no leniency.

"The Versailles treaty binds us to our allies," he said, "but it binds Germany to us all. It must be carried out."

These were his final words before leaving the Tribune after replying to various interpellations. His pronouncement summed up the whole program.

Never since the Germans threatened Chateau Thierry when Clemenceau appeared before the chamber to tell France that the war was not lost yet, and there was still hope for victory, has a French premier received such an ovation as greeted M. Poincaré today when he presented before the deputies the ministerial declaration. He pleaded for national unity, and except for the Socialists and Communists, who automatically oppose any and all French governments, the French parliament was as solid behind its government this evening as when the Germans crossed the frontier in 1914.

Alert and active, all the pent-up and suppressed energy stored up during seven passive years in Elysee Palace radiating from his physically small frame, M. Poincaré inhaled into the chamber the spirit which has been lacking since Clemenceau's departure. Germany must honor her signature at Versailles, declared the premier, not only with respect to reparations, which was a matter of "life or death to France," but also disarmament and the punishment of the war criminals.

The premier openly declared that should Germany fail to carry out either of the two latter undertakings it would be considered as a violation of the Versailles treaty, giving France complete freedom of action. He advocated the virtual elimination of the Supreme Council, with reversion to former diplomatic channels in dealings between nations, with the Supreme Council "called upon from time to time to confirm agreements, rather than to negotiate them." This was another radical departure from France's foreign policy.

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COAL STRIKE FRAMED FOR THE SPRING

Secretary Hoover Is of the Opinion That the Clash Will Come About the Last of March

Washington, Jan. 19.—Warning of an impending general strike in the country's coal industry was given today by Secretary Hoover, who declared that the public should know what to expect when the national agreements covering the wages and working conditions of miners expire April 1.

"The stage," Mr. Hoover said, "appears to be set for a strike in the bituminous coal fields about the last of March."

Mr. Hoover did not indicate what the government's plans for meeting such an emergency were, but said that there had been no conferences between representatives of the administration and the operators for about six weeks and no further discussions looking toward adjustment of controversies.

While he did not discuss what the government's attitude might be in the event of a general coal strike, the administration was regarding without undue alarm the approach of such a strike situation. As the time has approached for the conference of new wage scales and working contracts between miners and employers in the union fields, negotiations have been set on foot between the mine workers and the employers, with Mr. Hoover as the representative of the government taking a tentative part. Operators in the union fields, declaring that non-union coal producing territory has been taking an increasing proportion of the business, have announced their purpose of reducing wages when the contract expires, while John L. Lewis, as president of the United Mine Workers of America, has in speeches before union gatherings and statements asserted that the men would accept no reductions but would seek increases.

Wage negotiations in the bituminous industry have begun between an organization of operators in what is known as the central competitive field, including Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, and the union. The agreement reached in this area has been the basis of similar agreements in all the union outlying districts. Certain of the Pennsylvania operators have given notice that they would not renew the wage negotiations this year in association with other sections of the central field, on the ground that the West Virginia wage scales, chiefly non-union, were the chief competitive factor.

Secretary Hoover some weeks ago induced the operators to meet with President Lewis and submitted a proposition that the entire industry be taken over by the government, but the union representatives refused on the ground that the constitution of their organization forbade the submission of the question to outside arbitration in advance of direct negotiations with the employers. This position has remained unchanged, although Mr. Lewis was called to Washington last week for a conference with Secretary Hoover.

OVER SEVEN MILLION OF TAXES UNPAID

In Some Counties Two-Thirds Still Outstanding—Figures For 34 Counties

(The News and Courier).

In his annual message to the legislature last week Governor Cooper said: "On November 1, 1921 there was uncollected from taxes of 1920 practically \$125,000,000. Gov. Cooper did not say anything as to how the 1921 taxes were being paid. The News and Courier has undertaken to find out. On January 13 it wrote to the county treasurer of each county in the state, saying:

"We should be very much obliged to you if you would please let us know what part of the state and county taxes for your county for 1921 has been paid and what part remains unpaid."

The response to this letter has been prompt and general. Thus far thirty-five counties have been heard from. The News and Courier believes that the people of the state generally will be interested in knowing the situation. The legislature surely ought to be interested.

In Laurens county only the returns for the state tax were sent by the treasurer. In the other thirty-four counties reports show that approximately \$6,151,323 has been collected with approximately \$4,866,421 still outstanding of the 1921 taxes.

It is brought out in a number of cases that railroads and corporations have paid their taxes. Even where half the taxes or more have been paid in the county it does not follow that half the taxpayers have paid up.

Mr. R. B. Cheatham, treasurer of Abbeville county, writes: "Approximately 60 per cent. of the taxes have been collected. The north side of the county is paying up fine—no bull weevil." The total state and county taxes assessed against Abbeville county in 1921 were \$252,754.65. Sixty per cent of that would be \$151,652.79, leaving \$101,101.86 unpaid.

Mr. J. D. Woodward, county treasurer of Alen county, reports: "Assessment, \$552,633.43; collected, \$300,930; balance still due \$251,703.43."

In Allendale county, according to Mr. J. A. Wideman, county treasurer, 33 1-2 per cent was paid to December 31, 66 2-3 per cent remaining unpaid. The assessment against Allendale county for state and county purposes was \$139,091. In Allendale, therefore, about \$46,363 has been collected, and about individual taxes have been paid.

Barneggs' total assessment was \$178,745. The assessment collected to date for all purposes, and \$82,726 remains uncollected.

In Barnwell county, Treasurer J. B. Armstrong has collected about 49 per cent of the state and county taxes up to January 15, leaving 51 per cent unpaid. Mr. Armstrong says that about 20 per cent of the individual taxes have been paid. The 49 per cent referred to includes railroads, banks and other corporation taxes. Barnwell's assessment was \$172,831.57, of which it appears that something like \$87,000 is still to be collected.

Up to January 1 Berkeley county has paid in \$101,894, with \$78,624 still to be collected.

County Treasurer P. L. Crider, of Calhoun county, reports that he has collected very close to 50 per cent of the taxes in Calhoun, which would be about \$65,582 on an assessment of \$131,994.83.

The auditor's original abstract, writes County Treasurer Martin S. Connelly, was \$1,252,909.21 for Charleston in 1921; to which \$42,856.21 have been added, making a total of \$1,295,765.42 against which the following credits have been entered: payments to county treasurer, \$872,085.57; abatements allowed by Tax Commission to county auditor, \$26,415.56, giving total credits of \$898,501.13 and leaving the balance unpaid to January 30, \$397,249.29. Mr. Connelly says that he feels that this "is a very good showing for Charleston county."

In Chester county \$291,869.39 had been collected up to December 31 on a total assessment, state and county, of \$587,568.29. County Treasurer A. T. Henry says that "Chester county did as well almost for 1920, but we are about \$12,000 ahead of last year on the same date."

In Clarendon county, with an assessment of \$229,875.56, County Treasurer L. L. Wells reports about one-third collected. This would leave about \$153,000 still to be paid.

Colleton county, with an assessment of \$259,702.10, has collected up to December 31, \$165,908.75, leaving a balance unpaid of \$193,733.35, writes County Treasurer R. R. Milby.

County Treasurer A. P. Mozingo, of Darlington, reports 52 per cent paid on a total assessment of \$322,572.26, thus leaving upwards of \$250,000 still to be collected.

In Dillon county, with an assessment of \$293,269.45, County Treasurer John R. Watson reports 40

BIG DECLINE OF FOREIGN BUSINESS

Exports of United States Dropped Three Billion Dollars Last Year—Imports Also Off

Washington, Jan. 21.—Exports of manufactures decreased two billion dollars, exports of raw material dropped nearly one billion and foodstuffs exports declined a half billion during 1921. The Commerce department report says. Imports showed a similar decline.

President Obregon Is Sick Man Plans to Go to Rochester, Minnesota For Operation

Mexico City, Jan. 21.—Permission from congress is necessary before President Obregon can go to Rochester, Minn., for an operation. It is said here, in connection with his reported plan.

per cent collected, 60 per cent uncollected. Dillon county thus having something like \$175,000 of taxes still unpaid.

Dorchester, writes County Treasurer F. A. Gross, has collected a little over half the taxes for 1921, or about \$110,000 on a total assessment of \$195,347.92.

County Treasurer J. L. Prince of Edgefield reports about one-third of Edgefield's 1921 assessment collected, which would be about \$72,000, with about \$145,000 still outstanding.

Fairfield county, writes County Treasurer A. Lee Scruggs, has collected approximately \$164,000 on a total assessment of \$242,000, leaving about \$78,000 still unpaid.

County Treasurer H. W. Talleast, of Georgetown, writes that he has collected to January 1, \$98,600 out of a total of all taxes charged to Georgetown of \$224,000; thus leaving approximately \$125,000 unpaid.

In Greenwood county, says County Treasurer R. A. Ellison, \$280,000 has been collected out of a total of \$489,954.85; leaving a balance uncollected of \$209,954.85.

County Treasurer R. E. Causy, of Hampton, writes: "One-third collected; 33 1-3 per cent. But where, oh, where, is balance coming from with corporations and those who were able having paid?" Hampton's total assessment was \$167,369.16, so that approximately \$111,000 is still outstanding and uncollected.

About 50 per cent of Horry's taxes have been collected, says Treasurer C. E. Barker; Governor Cooper giving the county's assessment as \$216,592.

In Lancaster County, writes County Treasurer F. S. Hilton, 60 per cent has been collected on an assessment given by Governor Cooper as \$263,434.70, thus leaving approximately \$105,000 still outstanding.

County Treasurer Ross D. Young, writes: "I find that Laurens county has \$127,000 State tax charged of which I have already collected \$76,167.63, which is about 59 per cent of the state tax collected." The total tax assessed against Laurens for state and county purposes in 1921 was \$433,217.82. Mr. Young does not say what part of the county tax is uncollected.

In Lee County, writes County Treasurer T. C. Perrin, \$30,956.80 has been collected and \$44,562.20 is uncollected of state taxes on a total assessment of \$75,519; while \$60,496.25 has been collected and \$165,279.86 remains uncollected of county and school taxes on a total assessment of \$255,766.11, thus appears that Lee county still has about \$209,000 of taxes uncollected.

In Marion county \$148,395.68 has been paid on a total assessment of \$256,507.56; leaving \$108,111.88 uncollected.

Up to date, writes County Treasurer Fred G. Davis, 60 per cent of Marlboro's taxes have been collected; thus leaving about \$150,000 unpaid on a total assessment given by Governor Cooper as \$375,761.02.

County Treasurer W. H. Parks, of McCormick, reports one-third of the state and county tax collected; McCormick's total assessment being \$102,980.21; thus leaving about \$87,600 still unpaid.

In Newberry county, writes County Treasurer C. C. Shumppert, \$243,006.97 has been collected on a total assessment of \$396,719.81; leaving uncollected \$153,712.84.

County Treasurer R. H. Alexander says that about two-thirds, possibly more, of Oconee's assessment has been paid; which would leave about \$107,000 unpaid on a total of \$314,628.40.

Orangeburg's assessment, writes County Treasurer A. D. Fair, was \$600,000, of which \$240,192.59 has been collected up to January 14, leaving \$359,807.41 outstanding.

In Pickens county, writes County Treasurer Oar T. Hinton, about 75 or 80 per cent of the taxes have been paid up to January 16. The total assessment of Pickens, as stated by Governor Cooper, was \$485,197.78, which would leave about \$73,000 outstanding.

County Treasurer J. U. DeLoach,

BANK CRISIS ARISES IN PHILIPPINES

Governor General Woods Says Government Funds Are Needed to Keep Philippine National Bank Open

Manilla, Jan. 21.—Governor General Wood declared today that a crisis has arisen which must be met from the general funds of the government in assisting the Philippine National Bank to keep its doors open until emergency loans can be liquidated.

Blackshear, Georgia, Raided in Early Morning by Crowd of Gunmen

Blackshear, Ga., Jan. 20.—A gang of men believed to be members of a whiskey distilling ring at an early hour this morning visited this city and proceeded to shoot up the business district. Many guests at a local hotel had narrow escapes from bullets when the building was subjected to a heavy fire. Ten other buildings in the city were riddled with bullets. There were no casualties.

The hotel was owned and operated by Mrs. J. W. Robertson, widow of the former sheriff and mother of Sheriff Alvin Robertson of this county.

The postoffice windows were broken by a bullet as were the windows of the Blackshear Drug company, Strickland Bros. company, S. E. Cohen and Dr. G. Hendrix. No one was injured and the men who did the firing escaped.

Former Sheriff Robertson was killed last August in raiding an illicit still near here and the attack on the town came within a few hours after the son who succeeded to the office had seized a large copper still during a raid.

The firing started about 1:30 o'clock and lasted for 20 minutes. Pistols, shotguns, and rifles being used by the outlaws. It is not known how many men were in the party and it might have been that they were traveling in an automobile. No arrests have been made by Pierce county authorities.

The gang evidently waited outside of the city limits until the local power house cut off its lighting system for the night. With the town in total darkness, firing at random. There was little shouting above the roar of their barking weapons. Residents on the outskirts of the city said they saw an automobile go through town after the shooting had ceased. They say it was heavily loaded with men.

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW FOR TWO WEEKS

Law Makers Appear to Be Working More Rapidly and With a More Definite Aim Than Heretofore

Columbia, Jan. 21.—Faster work and a more definite aim than have characterized any legislature for a number of years feature the present session, after two weeks of work, and with five new revenue producing bills going through the mill, and with little else on the surface as of state-wide importance, the South Carolina legislature seems on the high road to adjournment within the forty days allowed for the regulation term.

There is one central theme running through legislation at this session, and aside from that there is little else of importance. Taxation, with a special eye to tax reduction, there seems to be a pretty general understanding among the leading members that the total of appropriations can hardly be reduced, but that new revenues must be produced, and before the second week ended Friday afternoon five revenue producing measures had been introduced by the ways and means committee of the house.

The bill to provide a tax on inheritances is with the senate judiciary committee, where a few kinks are being ironed out.

The income tax bill has passed the house and has gone to the senate where it is now being given consideration by the finance committee, for initial approval or disapproval.

The bill to provide a tax on hydro-electric power plants has been introduced in the house and is on the calendar for second reading.

The corporation license tax bill is also on the calendar of the house, where it will probably receive attention during the week ahead.

The gasoline tax bill has passed the house and is on the senate calendar for second reading.

Representative Simonhoff's bill, to require men to undergo physical examinations before marriage, passed the house last week and is on the senate calendar for third reading.

The bill by Senator Bonham, to regulate traffic on the highways, is scheduled for third reading soon.

The bill to provide a tax on moving picture films passed the house, where it was introduced by E. A. Brown, of Barnwell, and is to be debated in the senate early in the next week. The bill to enlarge the railroad commission and combine it with the public utilities committee, and the bill to require free telephone service between towns, are to be debated early in the week. There are Wightman bills to abolish the tax commission, the board of public welfare and the highway commission, but they are due to die hard.

POPE BENEDICT LIES IN STATE IN VATICAN

Arrayed in Full Canonicals, With Golden Mitre, Gloves and Ring—Gorgeous Ceremony Held

Pope Benedict Dead.

Rome, Jan. 22.—Pope Benedict's death occurred at 6 o'clock this morning.

The end had been expected for several hours. The attending physicians, Cardinal Gasparri and other members of the pope's household were present at the bedside.

From midnight all hope had been abandoned, and at 2 o'clock Dr. Battistini announced that the pope could not live longer than four hours at the maximum.

Rome, Jan. 22.—Arrayed in full canonicals, with golden mitre, gloves and ring the body of Benedict XV lies in state in the Throne Room, on the floor immediately below the apartment in which he died.

For many hours today to the room where the Pontiff had made his fight for life came a continuous stream of officials, the representatives of foreign nations, high prelates and others. Then, late in the afternoon, in gorgeous procession, composed of palatin guards, gendarmes, the Swiss guard, seicel chamberlains and honorary chamberlains, the body was solemnly transported down the royal staircase, through Clementine Hall into the Throne Room, where it was placed on a raised catafalque, before which the whole diplomatic corps paid devout reverence.

The Sacristan Zampini gave absolution, and the cardinals sprinkled holy water, while prayers were chanted, answered by the kneeling onlookers. Immediately afterward the doors were opened to the multitudes desirous of looking for the last time on the deceased pontiff.

The sacred congregation convened this morning when the cardinals were informed of the pope's death. With the exception of Cardinal Gasparri, the papal secretary of state, they gathered in Benedict's private apartments. Gasparri, in due and solemn form, escorted by the Swiss guard in full dress and accompanied by the prelates and acolytes of the reverend apostolic chamber, entered the apartments a few minutes later. He will administer the Holy Sacrament of the Interdict. Cardinal Gasparri, surrounded by the cardinals, then proceeded to verify the death of Benedict, extending over the lifeless form a silver wand and crying out:

"Giacomo! Giacomo! Giacomo!"

He opened the certificate of death and declared:

"Dominus papa noster mortuus est," thus announcing officially the pope's death.

On leaving the pontifical chambers, Cardinal Gasparri, still escorted by the Swiss guard, descended to the first floor, where the sacred congregation convened, commencing its deliberations at 10 o'clock.

The official and semi-official Vatican organs gave 6 o'clock as the time of the pope's death, and the Rome newspapers did likewise. Monsignor Pizzardo, in describing the last moments said to the Associated Press correspondent, who was the only American newspaper representative admitted to the ante-chamber:

"When the end was near I was called from my chamber, and hurried quickly to the pontiff's bedroom. That was a few minutes before 6 o'clock. I saw the Holy Father breathe his last. As the other prelates knelt beside the silent and lifeless form I asked that I might tell the news to the press. I thereupon hurried to the ante-chamber, where several newspapermen were awaiting events, and informed them that the pope had just died."

The cardinal was asked at what hour death had occurred, and he replied:

"Exactly at this minute."

At this identical moment the bells of St. Peter's struck the first stroke of 6 o'clock.

SIBERIA BEFORE ARMS CONFERENCE

Tokio Not Ready to Withdraw Troops From Siberian Soil

By the Associated Press.

Washington, Jan. 22.—The problem of Siberia, the only topic on the agenda of the Washington conference now remaining unexplored, is to replace the Chinese questions during the coming week as the paramount concern of the arms delegates.

By most of the delegates the Siberian situation is not expected to lead to a long discussion and it was predicted generally tonight that by the end of the week the Far Eastern discussions would find themselves once more barred of the almost concluded naval negotiations.

The Japanese, who expect Siberia to be considered at tomorrow's meeting of the Far Eastern committee, received today from Tokio an expression of policy by Foreign Minister Uchida which they regarded as determining definitely the attitude of their government against withdrawal of Japanese troops from Siberia until a stable administration has been established there. This position the delegation is expected to lay before the committee as soon as it begins its Siberian discussions, bringing the negotiations at once to a consideration of the central issues involved in the problem. There is no indication that any other power intends to stubbornly dispute the Japanese stand, or to bring on a prolonged debate over questions.

In some quarters there is apparently a belief that Japan should be invited to set a definite date for withdrawal of her military forces but the Japanese delegates say tonight they had no present intention of doing so. Their troops, they declare, were in Siberia solely to protect Japanese interests during the present unsettled conditions and therefore it would be wholly impossible to fix a withdrawal date until there are definite assurances of an improvement.

Although the Far Eastern committee is about to shift its attention to Siberia, a few of the Chinese questions still remain to be disposed of and will receive consideration when the cases which prompted their postponement are removed. The Chinese request for abrogation of the twenty-one demands' treaties is among these, but is not expected to come up until the Shantung negotiations are concluded. Other subjects include the Chinese Eastern Railway and the Russo-Chinese alliance of 1896, both of which are considered likely to dovetail into the Siberian discussions as they proceed.

It seems to be a unanimous belief that the coming week will see the Far Eastern agenda virtually exhausted, but also will be definite steps in the separate negotiations between the Japanese and Chinese over Shantung. Tomorrow the two groups will meet again for the thirty-first time and two or three more meetings are believed certain to reduce the points of difference to a stage where a compromise on the Tsingtau Railroad issue will bring the whole Shantung controversy to an end.

No Naval Development.

Over-Sunday conferences produced no development in the naval negotiations, but all the delegates held to their predictions that the Pacific fortifications settlement, the only point remaining at issue, would be worked out without serious trouble. It seemed to be a prevailing opinion tonight that a plenary session of the conferences would be held during the week to present the naval treaty in its final form.

In view of the unexpected delays that have developed in the past, most of the delegates are chary of making any further prophecies of adjournment date for the conference. No one seems to believe it likely, however, that the negotiations will run past the first ten days of February, and in some quarters it is expected that the final session will take place not later than two weeks hence.

In its discussions of Siberia, it was pointed out, the conference will be in a somewhat different position than when it considered China, the Chinese government being absent. In this situation the policy of Siberian territorial integrity is said to be regarded as in the hands of the powers, particularly since they agreed during the World War to installation of foreign troops on Siberian soil.

Working For World Peace

Premier Lloyd George States That to Be Prime Purpose of Genoa Conference

London, Jan. 21.—Premier Lloyd George, addressing the national liberation conference, declared all nations of Europe, without distinction, would be invited to attend the Genoa economic conference, "because we want to put an end to constant wars and rumors of wars." He said the peace of the world largely depended on the good understanding between the United States and Great Britain and the Washington conference had done much to restore that understanding.

The reparations problem is the key to all others and if Germany fails to keep her engagements it will be necessary to consider after seeking the advice of the Reparations commission, what measures to adopt. The first will certainly be necessary guarantees for the establishment of efficient control over the budget and the emission of paper and exportation.

"On the other hand, so long as other conditions of the Versailles treaty, such as disarmament and the punishment of the war criminals are now fulfilled we will be compelled to keep in operation in penalties provided and, if necessary, take others."

With reference to those guilty of war crimes, the premier asserted he would establish that there was a conspiracy between the Imperial German high staff and the great financial institutions to put the French mines, the spinning and weaving mills and the chemical factories beyond the possibility of operating.

Then closing a vigorous speech, he alluded to the accusation that he was responsible for the non-disarmament of Germany, because be-

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The reparations problem is the key to all others and if Germany fails to keep her engagements it will be necessary to consider after seeking the advice of the Reparations commission, what measures to adopt. The first will certainly be necessary guarantees for the establishment of efficient control over the budget and the emission of paper and exportation.

"On the other hand, so long as other conditions of the Versailles treaty, such as disarmament and the punishment of the war criminals are now fulfilled we will be compelled to keep in operation in penalties provided and, if necessary, take others."

With reference to those guilty of war crimes, the premier asserted he would establish that there was a conspiracy between the Imperial German high staff and the great financial institutions to put the French mines, the spinning and weaving mills and the chemical factories beyond the possibility of operating.

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