

THE LANCASTER NEWS

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POLITICIANS BUSY PLAYING FOR PLACE

Governor and Friends Making No Comment on Announcements of Candidates.

MANNING WILL RUN AGAIN

Attention Centered on What Messrs. Cooper and Stuckey Will Do.

Columbia, March 5.—Special to News and Courier: Although there were no new developments during last week on the surface view of politics, still the jockeying for position among the politicians continues unabated, and behind the screen which effectively shuts out the public gaze, the manoeuvring has been noticeable. Something may crop out within the next few days which will have a decided bearing on the whole situation.

Those in close confidence of Governor Manning have not seen fit to make public any comment on the various announcements of candidates, both active and prospective, who will contest with the Governor for the nomination at the hands of the Democrats in the coming primaries for the position of Chief Magistrate. That the friends of the Governor are keeping in close touch with the situation and are watching closely every move on the political chessboard is known, but they are not talking for publication. They are evidently of the opinion that watchful waiting is the best policy which can be pursued for the present, for they are known to feel that it is still too far away from the campaign for the different elements and issues to be clarified, that there will be much shirking and changing in their opinion between now and the opening of the campaign.

While Governor Manning has not formally announced his candidacy for re-election it is known that he will run.

Several up-state papers this week said friends of the Governor had received letters saying he was in the race for re-election.

The public attention is centered right at present on what Solicitor R. A. Cooper, of Laurens, and Mr. W. A. Stuckey, of Bishopville, will do. That both are being urged to enter the race for Governor is known throughout the length and breadth of the state. The attitude of Solicitor Cooper and Mr. Stuckey will have a most important bearing on the outcome of the campaign in the opinion of well posted and impartial political observers.

Former Governor Cole L. Blease has formally announced that he will seek election to the Governorship and his friends are making an active campaign for him.

There is a widespread and increasing demand throughout the state for the Democratic State Convention to abolish the county to county canvass of the candidates. The sentiment for doing away with this archaic method of campaigning is on the increase for impartial and unbiased observers declare that this political circus does the state a great deal of harm and no good at all. They declare that without it factionalism would die and candidates would have to discuss issues instead of one another, as it is almost imperative under the county to county canvass to get any attention. When the Democratic clubs meet in April to elect delegates to the county conventions this matter will come up and efforts will be made to send up instructed delegations to knock out the county to county canvass, it is said.

John T. Duncan has again announced his candidacy for Governor. Mr. Duncan declares that the people are tired of factionalism and are ready for a new deal.

J. M. DesChamps, of Columbia, has also announced his candidacy for Governor on the Democratic ticket. He is an author

PRESIDENT'S ENVOY BACK FROM EUROPE

Says Reports of Unfavorable Attitude Toward America Greatly Exaggerated.

New York, March 5.—Col. E. M. House, who sailed for Europe on December 28 on a confidential mission for President Wilson, arrived here to-day on the steamship Rotterdam from Falmouth. As soon as he landed from a special coast guard cutter, which met the Rotterdam at quarantine, Col. House announced at once he would leave for Washington to meet the President. He declined to comment on his mission, reiterating that he went to Europe to convey to some American Ambassadors information having to do with international questions that could not be supplied them by cable or letter.

Asked if he had noticed any marked change in the attitude of Europe toward the United States since his previous trip, Col. House said:

"Reports of an unfavorable attitude toward the United States by the people of Europe are exaggerated. At least I heard no criticism in any of the countries I visited. I will say also that we should remember that the people of the belligerent nations are living with their nerves on edge and we should make allowances accordingly." He added that everywhere he went he was treated with every courtesy and consideration.

VACANCY AT ANNAPOLIS

To Be Filled by Examination at Columbia Friday.

Columbia, March 4.—To fill a vacancy in the United States Naval Academy, an examination will be held on Friday, March 10, at the University of South Carolina. The appointment is to be made by Senator E. R. Tillman, and is open to all the young men of the state between the ages of 16 and 20, who shall comply with certain qualifications. The candidate must be physically sound and ready to pass the entrance examination April 18 at Annapolis. To the competitive examination he should bring a certificate of age, residence and physical soundness.

The examination will be held in room 3 of Davis college at the University. Candidates will assemble at 8:45, and begin work at 9 o'clock. There will be an intermission from 1 to 2 o'clock and the test will be closed at 5 o'clock. Candidates are expected to supply materials used in examination.

The subjects will be spelling, grammar and analysis, United States history, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, geography and composition. A general idea as to the nature of the questions may be had from the pamphlet of questions issued by the Naval Academy. Upon request copies will be sent from the office of the State Superintendent of Education to whom inquiries for further information should be addressed.

COLONIAL HOME BURNED.

House Built by Thomas Jefferson for His Daughter.

Charlottesville, Va., March 6.—"Edge Hill," a beautiful colonial home near here, which was planned by Thomas Jefferson for his daughter, Martha Jefferson Randolph, wife of Governor Thomas Mann Randolph, was destroyed to-day by fire. Much rare furniture and many valuable paintings as well as an Italian mantlepiece, which was the wedding gift to Martha Jefferson from the people of France, also were burned.

and lecturer and is making an extensive newspaper advertising campaign of his platform, on which he will ask the Democrats of the state to nominate him.

OVER THREE THOUSAND LIVES LOST

Tragedy of Auxiliary Cruiser La Provence on February 26 One of Greatest on Record.

TRANSPORTING SOLDIERS

Statement Issued February 29 Says No Submarine Signs Were Noticed Before or After Sinking.

Paris, March 3.—It was announced at the French ministry of marine to-day that there were nearly 4,000 men on board the French auxiliary cruiser La Provence when she was sunk in the Mediterranean on February 26.

It was stated that on board the La Provence were the staff of the 3d colonial infantry regiment, the 3d battalion, the 2d company of the 1st battalion, the 2d machine gun company and one extra company, in all nearly 4,000 men.

As the ministry of marine on Feb. 29 announced that the number of survivors of the La Provence disaster was estimated at 850, it is indicated by the foregoing dispatch that upwards of 3,130 lives were lost.

The loss of more than 3,000 lives in the sinking of the French auxiliary cruiser La Provence is the greatest ocean disaster of modern times. Up to the present the largest number of lives ever lost in one wreck was when the White Star liner Titanic struck an iceberg off the New Foundland banks on April 14, 1912, and sank with a death loss of 1,595. The rescued number 743.

The French ministry of marine had previously issued no statements as to the number of persons on the La Provence when she went down.

The vessel, however, when in the Trans-Atlantic service could carry 1,960 persons, including the crew, and it has been presumed that, as she was transporting troops between ports not far apart, she was carrying a number of men larger than her normal capacity.

The official statement of Feb. 29 announcing the sinking of the La Provence said:

"The French auxiliary cruiser Provence II (so designated to distinguish her from the French battleship Provence,) engaged in transporting troops to Saloniki, was sunk in the Mediterranean on February 26. Two hundred and ninety-six survivors have been brought to Malta, and about 400 to Melos by French and British patrol vessels summoned by wireless.

"No signs of a submarine were noticed before or after the sinking. La Provence was armed with five cannon of 14 centimetres, two of 57 millimetres and four of 57 millimetres."

CAPT. JONES VERY ILL.

Well Known Columbian Suffering Paralytic Stroke.

Columbia, March 4.—The friends of Capt. Allen Jones will regret to learn that he is very ill at his home in Shandon. Capt. Jones, who is one of the best known citizens of Columbia, suffered a paralytic stroke about ten days ago and has rallied only partially.

SETTLE STRIKE IN WASHINGTON.

Street Cars to Move Again in Capital.

Washington, March 6.—The street car strike which for two days has seriously crippled Washington's two traction lines was ended to-night after a mass meeting of 1,500 carmen had ratified an arbitration agreement reached late to-day when representatives of the 1,000 or more union strikers and officials of the companies.

Irishmen in Field Will Get Shamrocks.

London, March 4.—John Redmond, the Irish leader, is sending every Irishman in the army and navy on active service a sprig of shamrock for St. Patrick's day.

GERMANS HAMMERING AT GATES OF VERDUN

Germans Hammering at Gates of Verdun.

Believed Crown Prince Has De- termined to Capture Verdun at All Costs in Effort to Reach Paris.

ON OTHER BATTLE FRONTS

German Admiralty Reports the Sinking of Two French Aux- iliary Cruisers and British Pat- rol Boat.

The German armies are hammering at the gates of Verdun with heavy artillery, but at latest accounts had suspended infantry attacks. In the last fighting reported the initiative as on the side of the French, who desperately drove back at the Germans in a counter attack, which gained them ground.

The German thrusts in the new phase of the titanic struggle are being delivered with heaviest force at present on the salient to the northeast of the fortress, in which lies Douaumont plain. Here the French last week were driven out of Fort Douaumont and just now from Douaumont village, to the west.

In and around the village the battle has been raging with violence and heavy losses on both sides. Unofficial accounts state that there has been nothing on the western front to equal the ferocity of the attacks delivered by the Germans, while the French infantry is declared to be disputing every inch of ground, and in their last effort to have forced the Germans to rest on the laurels so far won and leave the continuation of the battle to their artillery.

Verdun at All Costs.

Paris advices show the French believe the German Crown Prince has determined to capture Verdun at all costs and, if possible, to break through the French line and open up the way to Paris.

There has been some fighting further south on the line in the west, the Germans reporting the repulse of a French attack at Lorraine, in which the French had some initial success, but were forced to relinquish the ground taken. Elsewhere there has been comparative quiet, while from none of the other European war fronts are events of moment reported.

The Russian occupation in Biths, in Turkish Armenia, is regarded in Petrograd as a development of first rate importance, opening further the way to Bagdad for the Russian armies. That goal is a long distance away yet from the Russians headed southward toward Mesopotamia, but the military observers already have mapped out the probable routes for Grand Duke Nicholas's armies over the 400-mile stretch to a junction with the British on the Tigris.

Wedge Divides Turks.

In addition, and of more immediate interest, is the bringing out of the points that the Turks will be greatly hampered in bringing up re-inforcements for their army that met defeat at Erzerum and is retreating westward, while the southward thrust by the Russians has driven a wedge between the Turkish forces west of Lake Van, in Armenia, and those operating in the east of Persia.

On the naval side of the conflict the German admiralty has reported the sinking of two French auxiliary cruisers and a British patrol boat, while from the Mediterranean comes the report of the sinking of the Italian steamer Giava, a 2,600-ton boat, by an Austrian submarine. Unofficial denial of the German claim to the sinking of two French warships is made in Paris.

INDORSES PLAN FOR "BABY WEEK."

Wilson Approves Children's Bureau Project.

Washington, March 6.—A letter from President Wilson expressing approval of the plans of the children's bureau for national observance of the present "Baby Week" was made tonight by Miss Julia Lathrop, head of the bureau, in a commendatory note from Secretary Wilson of the department of labor of which the bureau is a part. The President's letter, written to Secretary Wilson, follows:

"My Dear Mr. Secretary: I have your letter of February 24 inclosing a memo from Miss Lathrop of February 23, and hasten to say that the work of the bureau has my warmest approval and that I with pleasure sanction its plan for a nation-wide observance of March 4 to 11 as baby week.

"Cordially and sincerely yours,
"Woodrow Wilson."

"We have an infant mortality problem because we have labor problems. Problems of education and of civic responsibilities must also be solved but poverty is a prime factor and it is most fitting, therefore, that the bureau of the federal department of labor should participate in this popular educational campaign which calls attention to the factors involved in the welfare of American children."

INDICTMENTS IN CHARLESTON CASE

Thirteen Held in Connection With Election Rioting.

Charleston, S. C., March 4.—The local grand jury to-day returned a special presentment covering an investigation of the city Democratic executive committee room shooting of Oct. 15, 1915, when Sidney J. Cohen, a newspaper man, was killed and several others wounded, the finding of the grand jury asking for the indictment of 13 persons for either assault and battery with intent to kill, carrying concealed weapons, and one charge of inciting riot. No responsibility for the killing of Mr. Cohen was fixed. It is probable that indictments will be pressed by the solicitor at the June term of criminal court.

STREET CAR MEN IN CAPITAL ON STRIKE

About 50 Per Cent of Runs Made Sunday and Cars Stopped at Dark.

Washington, March 5.—Street car service in Washington stopped at dark to-night after about 50 per cent of normal runs had been made throughout the first day of a strike of union carmen for higher wages and shorter hours. Both of the capital's companies announced that in view of attempts at violence, it was deemed unwise to operate cars after nightfall and that service would be resumed at 6 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Senate Confirms Two Ambassadors.

Washington, March 6.—President Wilson's nomination of David R. Francis, of Missouri, to be ambassador to Russia, was confirmed to-day by the senate a few hours after it had been received from the White House.

Torpedo's Victim.

Paris, March 6.—The French auxiliary cruiser Provence was sunk by a torpedo in the Mediterranean last week, according to a story told by one of the survivors, which in part, has reached here.

"Every man would have been saved," says the survivor, whose name is Bokanowski, "if it had been within human possibility and the physical capacity of officers and crew. Unfortunately, the ship settled rapidly. The water soon got to the boilers, which began exploding within a few minutes."

NEWTON D. BAKER SECRETARY OF WAR

Former Mayor of Cleveland to Succeed Garrison in Wilson Cabinet.

PRESIDENT'S CLOSE FRIEND

Appointment Announced From White House After Confer- ence with Col. House.

Washington, March 6.—Newton D. Baker, former mayor of Cleveland, has been selected by President Wilson for Secretary of War. His nomination will go to the Senate to-morrow, and administration leaders expect quick confirmation so the new secretary may take active charge of the war department's plans for army increase and re-organization.

Mr. Baker is a lawyer and as a leader among Ohio Democrats has been a warm supporter of the Wilson policies since the pre-convention campaign in 1912. He has been a close personal friend of Mr. Wilson since the latter was his instructor years ago at Johns Hopkins university, and was offered the post of secretary of the interior in the original Wilson cabinet, but declined because he then was mayor. He is understood to be in thorough accord with the President on the preparedness programme and foreign questions.

An offer of the War Secretary ship was made to Mr. Baker by telegraph several days ago after the President had spent more than three weeks carefully going over a long list of those suggested to succeed Secretary Garrison. Mr. Baker accepted, and upon being notified to-day that he would be nominated at once, telegraphed that he would be in Washington Thursday.

Youngest Man in Cabinet.

Mr. Baker, who is 44 years old, will be the youngest member of President Wilson's Cabinet by more than five years. The next youngest member is Secretary Houston, who celebrated his 50th birthday recently.

The President will not select an assistant Secretary of War to succeed Henry Breckenridge until he has conferred with Mr. Baker Thursday.

It is understood to-night, however, that the new assistant Secretary of War will be from either the south or east. Among the men understood to be considered were Bibb Graves, former adjutant general of Alabama, and Lawrence Young, adjutant general of North Carolina.

"SEED CORN DAY."

Seventy Farmers Attend Meeting Yesterday.

At the joint invitation of C. L. McManus, farm demonstration agent, and the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce, some seventy interested farmers attended the "Seed Corn Selection Day" held at the court house Monday. Frank G. Tarbox Jr., representing Clemson college, was the first speaker and his address on the subject, "Seed Selection," was greatly appreciated. His address in its entirety will be published in the next issue of The News.

W. R. Elliott, district state agent, department of agriculture, was the next speaker and he gave some mighty good advice along farming lines.

Messrs. R. L. Cunningham and H. W. Miller, of Chester county, were present and displayed samples of their famous "Miller" corn which has received so much consideration the county over.

After the talks had been completed, a general round table discussion was entered into, during which many questions were asked and answered in connection with the proper methods of seed selection and seed germination. The conference as a whole was a pronounced success.