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76TH YEAR

AUSTRIA'S RULER MEETS THE END

Had Ruled For 68 Years. Reign One of a Succession of Tragedies and Disasters.

London, Nov. 22.—Emperor Francis Joseph died last night at 9 o'clock at Schoenbrunn castle, according to a Reuter dispatch from Vienna, by way of Amsterdam.

Archduke Charles Francis, grand-nephew of Emperor Francis Joseph, became heir to the throne of Austria Hungary by the assassination of Archduke Francis Ferdinand prior to the outbreak of the war. He has been in command of the Austrian armies on various fronts during the past two years.

Archduke Charles Francis was born on August 17, 1887. His wife was Princess Zita of the Bourbon house of Parma. His father was the Archduke Otto, who was the younger brother of Francis Ferdinand.

Reports of Illness.

London, Nov. 21.—The first intimation received here that Emperor Francis Joseph's health was again the subject of solicitation was contained in a dispatch dated November 12, emanating from the Vienna news agency, which reports that the emperor had been suffering some days from a slight catarrhal affection. Subsequently reports from various sources, more or less conflicting, represented that his condition was becoming worse but none of them indicated that his illness threatened to reach a critical state, and from Vienna came assurances that he still was able to give audience to one or more ministers daily.

What gave some credence to the suspicion that his condition was much graver than the official bulletin indicated was the report, which still lacks official confirmation, that it had been decided to associate the heir to the throne, Archduke Charles Francis, in the government of the country and that he was to assume the position on December 2 on the 68th anniversary of the emperor's ascension to the throne.

So far as is known here Archduke Charles Francis still is at the front in command of the army.

Climax to Tragedies.

With Francis Joseph's death in the midst of this great conflict there is a remarkable climax to a long list of tragedies in the Hapsburg family—a list unparalleled in any other reigning house in Europe—including the assassination or violent death of seven near relatives.

The fortitude with which the emperor bore each blow and in later years without the inroads of ill health himself was the wonder of his people. Fears that the shock of the assassination of his heir, the Archduke Francis Ferdinand, and his consort while on a state visit to Bosnia on June 28, 1914, would kill the emperor were answered in characteristic manner.

Francis Joseph, then nearing his 84th birthday, recuperating at Ischl from a catarrhal affliction which each spring had borne heavily upon him, mustered strength to return to Vienna immediately and take a firm grip on the confused state of affairs.

With the royal funeral rites observed and the new heir, the young Archduke Carl Francis Joseph, recognized, the venerable emperor and his advisers turned to Serbia with demands which startled all Europe. From the ultimatum of July 23, denouncing the anti-Austrian propaganda and demanding prompt punishment of the assassins of Archduke Ferdinand, according to items supposedly dictated by Francis Joseph himself, practically dates the war now ravaging Europe.

Old Custom Discarded at Monarch's Funeral.

London, Nov. 23.—Vienna will not parade her sorrow nor her welcome in formal observation at the funeral of the deceased Emperor or the assumption of the throne of his successor, Francis Joseph. Vienna dispatches indicate a departure from the rigidly formal and richly ceremonial custom which hitherto has marked the passing of a monarch.

The pall of war will be a cloud even in a pall of sorrow. Vienna is literally shrouded in black. The body of the late Emperor will lie in state in the Imperial Palace.

CAR-BREAKERS CAUGHT.

W. S. DuPre, night-watchman at the Seaboard Air Line Railway, caught two car-breakers at the Shops on last Saturday morning, and landed them in jail. The parties arrested were in the car at the time of the arrest, it is alleged, and had property on their persons stated to have been stolen from the car. A warrant has been sworn out before the United States Commissioner Cox charging a breaking into an interstate car and stealing freight from an interstate shipment, and a preliminary will be held on Dec. 5th.

COTTON QUESTION TO BE DISCUSSED

South Carolinian Calls Body Together to Consider Emergency Born of War.

Norfolk, Va., Nov. 28.—Cotton's relation to international reconstruction after the European war will be one of the serious questions to be discussed at the eighth annual convention of the Southern Commercial congress, which will be held in Norfolk December 11 to 14. The future of cotton, particularly its status after the war, is of such moment that E. J. Watson of South Carolina, president of the Southern Cotton congress, has issued a call for an extraordinary session of that body to be held in conjunction with the commercial congress.

The Southern Cotton Growers' association, President Harvie Jordan, also will hold its annual convention in connection with the congress. Tuesday, December 12, will be "cotton day" and in addition to participation by their officers and members in the Southern Commercial congress sessions of that day the Southern Cotton congress and the Southern Cotton Growers' association will conduct separate programmes.

The relation of cotton to international reconstruction is intelligently outlined by E. J. Watson in the following call for the extraordinary session of the Cotton congress:

"The eighth annual convention of the Southern Commercial congress is to be held in Norfolk, Va., December 11-14, 1916, and the series of sessions will be devoted, not only to the most practical consideration of the vital questions relating to agriculture education, to the industries and to commerce, but to an interpretation of the relation of the United States to international reconstruction following the close of the world war, which has in so many ways affected American commerce and industry. It is the purpose during these sessions to review conditions as they exist today, and looking to the future, to build a programme that will meet the exigencies of tremendously changed economic conditions at the close of the world war.

"Nothing that America possesses was more affected by the outbreak of the European war than cotton: nothing will be of more concern to the future prosperity of the nation than the future of American cotton. It has therefore been suggested to me that it will be the part of wisdom for the cotton growers of the South and for men interested and concerned in the present and future of cotton, to come together on the second day of these general sessions, for the purpose of taking up all questions relating to the cotton problem and taking such action looking to the enactment of national legislation or cooperative effort as may be deemed best.

"The last session of the Southern Cotton congress was held in the city of Washington, commencing on August 13, 1914. The Southern Cotton congress never meets except when there is an emergency call for decisive action.

"Another session of the United States congress is soon to convene and I believe that it is not only proper and timely, but necessary that the representative men of the cotton belt States should assemble and discuss all these problems in their relation to international reconstruction.

"Accepting the suggestion of the officers of the Southern Commercial congress, I hereby call an extraordinary session of the Southern Cotton congress to be held in the city of Norfolk, Va., beginning at 3 p. m., on December 12, 1916. All members of the Southern Cotton congress, including business men and bankers of the South and all individual growers who may be sufficiently interested, are hereby invited to attend this extraordinary session of the congress."

MR. AND MRS. SHERARD HAVE ARRIVED HOME

Mr. and Mrs. James Sherard arrived in our midst on Friday and are at home to their friends at Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Miller's, and are receiving congratulations from a host of friends.

Mrs. Sherard is a young woman of unusual beauty and charm and is popular with our people, having lived most of her life here and her friends are delighted that her marriage will not take her away from Abbeville.

Mr. Sherard is a promising young business man and holds a responsible position with the L. W. White Co.

SPENDING THANKSGIVING DAY IN ATLANTA.

Mrs. Jim Woodhurst, Miss Elizabeth Edmunds, Miss Lucia Woodhurst and Miss Helen Edwards will spend Thanksgiving Day with friends in Atlanta and will enjoy the gaieties of a big city.

REVEREND BISHOP PASSES TO REST

In Episcopacy Since 1882 and Well Known Besides for His Biblical Learning.

Baltimore, Md., Nov. 21.—Bishop Alpheus W. Wilson of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, died at his home here today. He was 82 years of age.

Bishop Wilson returned home last night from a month's tour of the South. He was ill when he arrived, having come from Richmond in an automobile. He took to his bed at once. He sank into unconsciousness this morning. He had been bishop since 1882 and was a Biblical scholar of national note.

Bishop Wilson, who died yesterday in Baltimore, preached Sunday before last in the Methodist church at Green wood, where he was the guest for a week of the Rev. J. O. Wilson, D. D., president of Lander College. Bishop Wilson delivered a most forceful sermon, one of peculiar strength, while weak of body there was no evidence of mental decay.

Bishop Wilson had many strong friends in South Carolina and it had been said that he was peculiarly fond of coming to this State. He presided over more of the recent conferences, before the division, than any other bishop. He was at Rock in 1914, shortly before he was superannuated, and in 1910 presided at the conference held at the Washington street church, Columbia. He was recognized as one of the Methodist church's greatest men, his fame extending far beyond the bounds of the Southern division.

"No other man has been so signally honored by the Southern Methodist church as was Bishop Wilson," said B. Rhett Turnipseed, pastor of the Main Street church, last night. "He had many warm friends in South Carolina and his death will cause sorrow throughout the Methodist membership."

Bishop Wilson was for many years prior to his superannuation in 1914 senior bishop.

He was born in Baltimore, February 5, 1834, the son of the Rev. Norval Wilson and Cornelia Laurence Howland Wilson. He was educated at Columbia University, now George Washington university, and was received on trial by the Baltimore conference, Methodist Episcopal church, in 1853. Later he joined the Southern branch of this church when the Baltimore conference, Methodist Episcopal church, South, was organized. He became secretary of the board of missions in 1878 and in May, 1882, was elected bishop. Had he lived a few months longer he would have completed 35 years of continuous service in this high office. He gave more than half a century to the Methodist ministry.

Bishop Wilson took episcopal tours around the world in 1886, 1888 and 1890, and to Japan, Korea and China in 1898, 1900 and 1907. He was a delegate to Ecumenical Methodist conferences at London in 1881 and 1901, and visited Brazil on missionary inspection in 1892 and 1903. He was the author of "Missions" and also of "Witnesses to Christ."

SOUTHERN PLACES A LARGE ORDER FOR EQUIPMENT

Atlanta, Ga., November 28.—In addition to 1,449 freight cars which the Southern Railway has placed in service since July 1st and 1,891 ordered in the spring, which have not yet been delivered by the builders, the Southern has just placed orders for 2,963 freight cars and 45 locomotives for the earliest possible delivery.

The Pressed Steel Car Co., will build 1,313 steel flat bottom 50-ton gondola coal cars and the Lenoir Car Works of Lenoir City, Tenn., 1,350 steel center sill 30-ton plain box cars, 200 steel underframe stock cars, and 100 steel center sill caboose cars.

THE STUDY CLUB.

The last meeting of the study club until after Christmas was held Tuesday morning at the home of Mrs. G. A. Neuffer. Six meetings have been held and they have been most pleasant and profitable to the members. This club is a part of the Civic Club being conducted by Mrs. E. C. Horton, chairman of the Literary committee. Miss Helen Smith has conducted the study of Shakespeare, the study of Hamlet being taken up first.

The club will resume its activities after Christmas.

ILLUSTRATED SERMON.

The third of the illustrated sermons to be delivered by the pastor of the Presbyterian church, will be given tonight, at 8 o'clock. The public is cordially invited. The subject will be "Joshua."

PLAN HUGE SHIPS WITH GREAT GUNS

Each of Giant Ships of Line Will Be Equipped With One Dozen Mouser Cannon.

Washington, Nov. 27.—Naval designers are planning battleships which will have a length of 700 feet—100 feet longer than ships already provided for—and ordnance experts are working on a new 16-inch, 50 calibre rifle for new battleships which will be the most powerful naval gun in the world, according to statements made today at the hearing by the house naval subcommittee on the new naval appropriation bill. Rear Admiral Strauss, chief of ordnance, told the committee that it was the purpose to arm the ships to be contracted for this year with 12 of the new guns.

That the department is proposing a far greater size in future dreadnoughts developed during the testimony of Rear Admiral Frederick R. Harris, chief of the bureau of yards and docks. His testimony dealt largely with the increased cost of equipping government yards for the building of capital ships and during its course he expressed doubt that it would be possible to construct at the Philadelphia yard within the estimate the 1,000 foot dry dock for which congress has appropriated \$3,000,000. A similar dock at Norfolk, he said, apparently could be finished at that price. Bids for building the Philadelphia dock will be asked next January.

Explaining his estimates for the fiscal year 1912, Admiral Harris said increased prices of material and labor were rendering the huge navy building programme on which the country has embarked doubly expensive.

Submitting an estimate of \$2,000,000 for shore station maintenance as against \$1,800,000 last year, he warned the committee that the actual sum needed would be nearer \$3,000,000, which would buy no more than the \$1,800,000 did last year. He explained that structural steel had gone up from \$55 to \$102, and that last quotations on locomotive cranes ran as high as \$24,000 for machines that cost \$10,000 last year. The admiral said Secretary Daniels had not yet decided which of the four yards—Norfolk, Boston, Philadelphia and Bremerton—designated for capital ship construction, were to be equipped out of the \$6,000,000 fund appropriated last year.

Admiral Strauss said rapid progress was being made in completing the navy's supply of anchored mines along the lines mapped out by the general board. When the appropriation asked for this year had been expended, he said, there will be enough mines on hand to provide against any emergency.

SIGN PROTOCOL FOR TROOPS TO LEAVE MEXICO

Border Commissioners Reach Agreement—Take Recess.

Atlantic City, N. J., Nov. 24.—Withdrawal of the American troops, who went into Mexico in pursuit of Francisco Villa, after the Columbus raid, and the patrolling of the border by the respective armies of the United States and Mexico was agreed to in a protocol signed here late today by the members of the American-Mexican Joint Commission seeking to adjust differences between the two countries. Adjournment of the conference sessions was taken immediately to allow Alberto J. Pani, one of the Mexican commissioners, to go to Mexico to place the proposals before First Chief Carranza for approval.

HONORED GUESTS.

Friends of Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Clinkscales, of Lowndesville, were glad to see them in Abbeville last Friday. They were visitors at various business houses and found it pleasant and profitable to be here. Mr. and Mrs. Clinkscales have no children of their own, but they have generously cared for and educated two orphan girls, who have grown up to be a pride to their benefactors.

Mrs. Clinkscales is well and healthy looking as well as she did many years ago. Rev. T. A. Campbell, the much respected pastor of the Baptist church at Lowndesville, came to Abbeville with Mr. and Mrs. Clinkscales.

MR. GARRY HALL IMPROVING.

Mr. Garry Hall was slightly injured on his engine at Athens one day last week, the driving wheel broke causing the accident. Friends are glad to know that the injuries received are not serious and that he will be able to resume his work shortly.

Mr. Harry Wilson has his run during his absence.

WILSON TO VISIT GREAT GATHERING

Several Thousand Delegates Expected at Meeting During Second Week in December.

Norfolk, Va., Nov. 27.—President Wilson's coming to Norfolk December 11 to participate in the opening programme of the eighth annual convention of the Southern Commercial congress, following closely upon his reelection, will give an impetus to the Southern invasion of Norfolk that is expected to assemble here that day the largest throng that has ever gathered for an event in Virginia. The day will be literally alive with features of the type calculated to draw crowds from distant as well as nearby cities and the lowest estimate that has been placed upon the expected multitude of visitors on Woodrow Wilson day is 50,000.

Henry G. Barbee, chairman of the citizens' executive committee, estimates that the four days of the convention will draw to this city between 100,000 and 125,000 visitors. The 16 State executives of the house of Southern governors have each appointed upwards of 100 official delegates. Gov. Stuart, of Virginia, is completing his list, which will include the names of probably 1,000 prominent Virginians. The Southern municipalities, boards of trade, chambers of commerce and other commercial bodies will name upwards of 5,000 delegates. Dr. Clarence J. Owens of Washington, managing director of the Southern Commercial congress, estimates that the number of official delegates will run between 8,000 and 10,000.

Aside from the stellar programme features announced for Wilson day each of the subsequent days will offer attractions for visitors and when the final count is made it will not be surprising if Chairman Barbee's prediction is realized.

In addition to the convention of the congress there will be no less than eight other Southern and national bodies simultaneously in annual conference. President Wilson will arrive from Washington with his party on the presidential yacht Mayflower, probably Sunday, December 10, reviewing in Hampton Roads and Norfolk harbor the entire Atlantic fleet, which will constitute the largest armada ever assembled at one time under the American flag. Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels has included in the fleets winter programme a stay of five days in Hampton Roads as a compliment to the Southern Commercial congress. The secretary will deliver an address December 12 at the morning session of the congress. The fleet is expected to put to sea on the morning of December 14 for target practice off Cape Henry.

The president will make the closing address at the opening session December 11, after which he will review the imposing naval, military, industrial, commercial, civic and social parade. He will be the guest of Norfolk at a dinner at the Monticello hotel and may go to Cape Henry, where the new \$8,000,000 Fort Storey, first defense of the entrance to the Chesapeake, will be built, to attend a public oyster roast. The Mayflower with the presidential party is expected to leave here for Washington the same night, although it is possible the president's stay may be lengthened another day. In the latter event he will review the colossal night water carnival, which will be the most spectacular feature of the convention.

SOUTH OFFERS ATTRACTIONS FOR GOLFERS

Washington, D. C., November 28.—That the facilities offered by the South for lovers of golf is now one of the strong attractions inducing winter tourist travel to this section of the country is indicated in a folder just issued by the Passenger department of the Southern Railway, which shows a list of 114 golf links on or reached by the lines of the Southern. The directory gives the links in the different Southern states according to each state, the number of holes and length in yards of each.

The golf directory is but one of the features of the folder which is entitled "Where to go this Winter", and which is issued for the purpose of calling attention to the South as a place for the tourist and visitor to spend a pleasant winter and find enjoyable winter sports.

The folder has ninety-one illustrations besides those displayed on the cover and contains information in regard to the various cities and points of interest in the territory reached by the Southern, and describes the splendid through train service provided for the winter tourist season of 1916-17. There is also shown a complete hotel directory giving the names of resorts, accommodations and rates, which will make the folder of especial interest and value to the Southern visitor.

GOVERNOR ISSUES PROCLAMATION

Exhorts South Carolinians to Relieve Distresses of Others Less Fortunate.

Gov. Manning last Thursday signed the following Thanksgiving day proclamation:

"While other nations and peoples have suffered horrifying destruction of life and property, and have endured the stupendous catastrophes of war, our people have enjoyed health, peace and prosperity.

"Our unbroken custom has been to acknowledge by public act our gratitude to Almighty God for mercies vouchsafed us.

"Thanksgiving and prayers should be accompanied by generous gifts for the relief of those who are in distress and of those in want.

"Now, therefore, I, Richard I. Manning, governor of the State of South Carolina, do appoint Thursday November 30, 1916, as a day of thanksgiving and prayer. On that day I urge our people to lay aside business and labor, repair to their places of worship, lift up their hearts in fervent prayer to God and express our gratitude by contributing to the relief of the suffering and want of those who are in need of our sympathy and aid."

IN HONOR OF MISS MABRY.

A pleasant affair of last Friday was the bridge party given by Mrs. J. R. Dye in compliment to her guest, Miss Eliza Mabry of Abbeville, Mrs. R. E. Abell, an October bride, and Miss Hazel Killian of North Carolina. Mesdames E. H. Hall and W. J. Simpson welcomed the guests at the door and introduced them to the honor guests, after which they found their places at the appointed tables where bridge was enjoyed for a while. As a pleasant interruption to the games a tempting menu was served by Misses Marguerite Tolbert, Annie Gant, Gertrude Davis, Elizabeth Coleman, Emma Salley, Elizabeth and Sarah Glenn.—Chester correspondent to State.

IN HONOR OF THE BRIDES.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nickles entertained Monday night at their home on Main street complimentary to the charming young married couples of the city. Mrs. Nickles always gives enjoyable entertainments and this was no exception to the rule. The house was pretty in its decoration of white narcissus and chrysanthemums. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Hill; Mr. and Mrs. J. Moore Marx, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Anderson and Misses Dial, Lander and Epting and Mr. Albert Henry. Cards were played during the evening and a delightful tea of five courses was served.

IN THE CHURCHES.

The regular union services were held in the Baptist church last Sunday night and were attended by a large concourse of people, who heard a fine sermon preached by Rev. H. Waddell Pratt on "The Coming of Christ."

Union Thanksgiving services will be held in the Methodist church Thursday morning at eleven o'clock.

The third illustrated sermon in the series being preached in the Presbyterian church will be given tonight. These lecture sermons have been greatly enjoyed by all and have been entertaining and instructive.

AN ARGUMENT.

Sunday night after returning from union services at the Baptist church, our meditations on the fine sermon of Mr. Pratt were suddenly ended by a violent argument in another room participated in mostly by our son, Bill. So many ailments and ailments of Bill's have been cured by a nickel, that he has grown to believe that a sufficient amount of coin will cure any disease, and when his sister, Mary, told him that John D. Rockefeller had more than a million dollars and also had indigestion so badly that he could not "eat chicken" it precipitated a row which, but for timely intervention, might have resulted in bloodshed.

ERSKINE PLAYS CLEMSON

Erskine will play Clemson Freshman foot ball team, on Thanksgiving Day. Game will be called at 3:30 P. M.