

# The Manning Times.

VOL. XXXVIII

MANNING, S. C., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1918

No. 3

## ARMISTICE SAID TO BE EXTENDED TO FEBRUARY 18

Further Talk of Possibility of Final Break in Peace Negotiations Between Russians and Huns

### STORMY TIMES IN BERLIN

Russian Soldiers Loot Town; Force 7,000 Ukrainians to Surrender—Cossacks Are Defeated

Although there is still talk in official quarters of the possibility of final break in the peace negotiations between the Central Powers and the Bolsheviks, the armistice evidently has been extended to February 18 and it is reported that the pourparlers will be transferred shortly from Brest-Litovsk to Warsaw.

Late advices indicate that there was considerable haggling between the opposing delegates at Brest-Litovsk the latter part of last week. Trotzky, Bolshevik foreign minister, as in the previous deliberations, proved recalcitrant with regard to the German formula "that the contracting parties have resolved henceforth to live in peace and friendship," declared that it "is a decorative phrase," and did not describe what the future relations between the Russian and German peoples would be.

### Internal Strife

Internal strife continues in various parts of Russia. Bolshevik troops are reported to have cleared Gen. Kaledine's Cossacks from the Don river basin and to have captured Ekaterinoslav. Following previous reports of a mutiny of sailors at Sebastopol, where twenty-six officers, among them four admirals, were killed, Russian soldiers are reported to have looted the town of Kilia and in fighting with the Ukrainians to have forced the Second Ukrainian regiment to surrender and lay down 7,000 rifles and thirteen machine guns.

### Garrison in Revolt

The Petrograd garrison also apparently is out of hand, idle soldiers having been reported as going into the provinces and taking food from the inhabitants and bringing it back to the capital and selling it at exorbitant prices.

The social revolutionary members of the constituent assembly in Russia are opposed to a general peace and the Bolsheviks are "usurpers of power, who have precipitated the country into an abyss of civil war and anarchy."

### Stormy Times in Berlin

Speculation is rife concerning the conferences that are being held in Berlin between the military and political leaders, in which Emperor William and the Crown Prince also have participated. "A death struggle is now proceeding between the Reichstag peace majority and the military annexationist party," says a Bavarian newspaper, which adds that it "does not know which side of the government will support and that Egyptian darkness enshrouds the nation's peace terms."

Cold weather and snows are still retarding the infantry activity on the battle front, where no fighting of moment is taking place, except in the nature of small patrol engagements and artillery duels. Notwithstanding the fact that similar conditions prevailed last week, the British casualties for the seven days ending this Monday were 24,979 as compared with 18,998 the previous week, and 9,951 the week before that.

### BRITISH LOSSES FOR WEEK

The Casualties Total 24,979 Officers and Men

London, Jan. 14.—British casualties reported during the week ending today totalled 24,979 officers and men, divided as follows:

Killed or wounded: Officers, 117; men, 5,149.

Wounded or missing: Officers, 304; men, 19,408.

Casualties in the British army reported for the week ending today exceed by almost 6,000 the total reported in the previous week when the figures took an upward jump, virtually doubling the casualties of the preceding week. A week ago the total was 18,998, including 561 officers and men killed, while the total for the pending week was 24,979.

### DANIELS COMMENDS MEN FOR BRAVERY

Washington, Jan. 14.—Commendation for bravery in saving from fire a whole group of submarine chasers has been awarded to Frank Marsh, a machinist's mate, second class, of the naval reserve force by Secretary of the Navy Daniels. Marsh enlisted at Boston last October.

Secretary Daniels also sent letters of commendation for bravery to six of the crew of the torpedo boat de-Charles Charlesworth, boatswain's mate, New York; Phillip J. Burger, seaman, Lansingburgh, N. Y.; L. J. Kelly, chief electrician, no address given; Howard Chase, quartermaster, Nantucket, Mass.; Harry L. Gibson, chief boatswain's mate, Philadelphia, and Edward Meier, Bay City, Mich.

## PERSHING ONLY ALIEN IN FRANCE TO MOVE FREELY

Paris, Dec. 28. (By mail)—General Pershing is the only American in France who can leave the country without asking permission to do so two weeks in advance. The United States embassy, the consul general and all of the consuls throughout France have been notified by the secretary of state to hold up all persons departing for America for two weeks before using their passports.

The object of this long delay and the rigorous investigation made into the identity and activity of every one leaving France is to prevent as far as possible the ingress of pro-Germans into the United States and to decrease the acts of sabotage which have been committed—the blowing up of bridges, munitions factories, ships etc.

All civilians who attempt to go to the United States must make application to the embassy or the consul at least two weeks before they wish to sail. Any officer or enlisted man in the expeditionary force of the United States army who wishes to return home must produce proper credentials and orders of movement from his superior officer. This applies equally to the "men higher up" with the exception of the commander-in-chief of the American army in France.

"We have received orders from Secretary Lansing to take every possible step to prevent enemy aliens or pro-German Americans from getting to the United States," said Alexander M. Thacker, consul general, in discussing the situation.

"Of course a true American citizen in good standing and with a clear conscience will have no trouble in identifying himself and proving his right to get home. There will be a delay—perhaps tedious, as it amounts to at least two weeks. But any sensible person will realize the gravity of the war and will not resent questioning and examination, and a minute scrutiny of his papers and a certain amount of delving into his private business.

"There have been a good many German agents reaching the United States during the past six months. We are not sure that they got there via France. They may go chiefly via the Scandinavian countries or via Holland. But in order to safeguard the situation to the limit the utmost precaution will be exercised.

"In the case of men in the army in France or Americans in the French service, aviation, artillery, infantry or ambulance work, and with Red Cross or Y. M. C. A. attaches, we are permitted to use a certain amount of discretion. If such men come here with a month's furlough from the United States and have their proper orders and papers we do not hold them up two weeks and thus consume half of their holiday. We investigate as rapidly as possible and often are able to vize their papers and let them go right through.

"One must have business reasons to travel these days as our rules are so strict that it is very hard to travel for pleasure. If a person living over here and not engaged in business wishes to return to America to see his or her relatives or make a visit the chances are that it can be arranged, but it probably will be very hard for that individual to get back to France again.

"We work in connection with the French ministry for foreign affairs and these officials are doing all in their power to prevent Americans from coming over here unless they have real and important business. The food situation is too acute here, there is scarcely more than enough to go around, and there must be no useless alien mouths to feed if it can be avoided.

"The same restrictions are taken in Great Britain, in the Scandinavian countries, in Holland, Switzerland, Italy, Spain and Portugal."

## WILL REGISTER ALL HOMES IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Columbia, S. C., January 15.—Effort will be made by the United States food administration to register all homes in South Carolina in the food conservation movement, according to an announcement by William Elliott, food administrator for this State.

During the campaign last fall more than 100,000 homes joined the food administration force by signing the pledge cards. There are nearly 400,000 homes in the State and every effort will be made to secure all for membership in the United States food administration.

There are 3030 families in Clarendon county registered as members of the food administration. There are 7,470 families in the county. All families who have not joined the food administration should write immediately to the food administrator, Arcade building, Columbia, and secure the beautiful window card, the kitchen card and other information which is to be distributed. The food administration is making arrangements for the wide distribution of information that will be of value to every household. Those signing the pledge cards, merely promise to save food in so far as possible, so that America may be successful in the war.

The food administration has received a limited supply of War Cook books and the homekeepers who apply first for membership will receive one of these books free of cost.

"Food Will Win the War; Don't Waste It," is the slogan of the United States Food administration.

## OUR LEGISLATIVE WEEKLY LETTER

Columbia, Jan. 14th, 1918.

Editor Manning Times:

Both houses of the General Assembly met at noon last Tuesday, but I was unable to comply with your request for a letter last week in time for the issue of your paper, and I am afraid I shall not be able to write you much of interest this week. It is so early in the session that nothing of great importance has been done yet, and too early to do much in the way of forecasting.

On the first day the resignation of Speaker Hoyt was accepted, as he has moved to Michigan, and Hon. Thos. P. Cothran was elected speaker. Mr. Cothran is a man of about 55 years, is a son of the late Judge James S. Cothran, remembered by many of our citizens, and is a man who would fill with ability and grace any position in the judiciary from chief justice of the state down, or any position in the executive department from governor down.

We have got right down to work. There were many measures in the calendar left over from last session, and already numbers of these have been disposed of.

We have already begun holding night sessions, though the comforts of the building are bad, owing to poor heat from scarcity of coal.

It is a matter of gratitude and thankfulness to the Almighty that out of 124 members of the house and 44 members of the Senate, death has not claimed a single one since the last session, though there are perhaps 15 to 20 absentees, some in France, and more still in America getting ready to make the sacrifice of their lives if necessary for our great liberty loving country. All honor to these gentlemen, regardless of whether they are reformers in administration men, prohibitionists or even liquor advocates, or woman suffragists or against woman suffrage.

It is pleasant to meet in Columbia once each year and renew acquaintances with men from all over the state, but this session is quite different from some I have attended in years gone by, due to circumstances brought about by the war. Expenses are extremely high in Columbia now, nor can one get the comforts that used to be available. Coal and wood are scarce and the state house and hotels and boarding houses are poorly heated, and the fare at the boarding houses is only ordinary. I was unable to pay \$4.00 and \$5.00 a day at the two swellest hotels, so I am stopping at one of the medium grade hotels at a special rate of \$2.00 per day with two in a room, and for two days out of four last week we had no sugar on the table at all. Part of the time when we had sugar it was dark, soggy, unrefined beet sugar, almost black, and I never saw any just like it before. I went out to a grocery store and got a merchant to scrape his barrel and sell me a pound of it to bring home to show my youngsters that they were not being subjected to hardship in not allowing them to dip so heavy in the dish of granulated sugar, and when I left the grocery store the proprietor asked me not to say anything about where I got it.

Governor Manning delivered his annual message before a joint assembly of the two houses last week, and it was almost distinctly a war message. There were a number of good recommendations in it, real constructive measures, but the body of it dealt with war conditions and things arising out of the war.

He recommended a divorcement of the duties of Clemson College and the Department of Agriculture, Commerce and labor, where they have been overlapping, devolving the duties of instruction more particularly to the college, while the Department of Agriculture should devote its energies more in the direction of marketing and commerce. Another recommendation of the governor is the consolidation of the offices of Bank Examiner and Insurance Commissioner, putting both departments under one head and the saving of one state office.

The governor also recommended a series of enactments along the line of curtailing vice, all of them commendable in the objects sought to be attained, but one or two of them impracticable of enforcement and dangerous in the practical application. But all in all the governor's address was rather an able paper.

The game warden mess and mix-up has provoked a big stir already over in the senate, but the row has not reached our side yet.

One of the big questions which will come up will be whether South Carolina will ratify the proposed amendment to the United States Constitution on the liquor question, and whether the Legislature itself will handle the matter or refer it to the people at the ballot box. Of course, the red hot prohibitionists want it ratified right now. There was a move on foot in the house last week to ratify the amendment without even referring it to a committee, but the proposition met with so many objections that the resolution was referred to a committee, who will report and the matter will come up in the regular way. I am unable to make much forecast as to what the legislature will

do with this question, but it would not surprise me if it is referred to the people. I hear a number of men who were very much in favor of the quarter-month measure at the last session, now express themselves that the state had better not act rash, and go to fast, as the people, in their previous vote on the liquor question as to whether or not they should vote out the dispensary, have never yet voted on a question involving the sovereign rights of the state, and what it should surrender to the national government. So far as I am concerned I have not yet studied the question fully, but expect to before it comes up for a vote, and I do not propose to vote with either the ultra extreme prohibitionists or those who would hold up scarecrows in favor of liquor. Common sense is what we want in the making and administering the laws in South Carolina, whether it comes from either side of the classes just mentioned.

One rather noted measure which was introduced at the last session and came up for action in the house last week was a bill to prohibit smoking tobacco or cigars or cigarettes in any hotel dining room, restaurant, cafe, lunch room, or any atmosphere where food was served. If the bill had passed a man could not have lighted a cigar in Jack's Cafe or a cigarette in Jim Richardson's restaurant without laying himself liable to go to the chain gang, even though there might not be a lady within a half mile of the place where the fellow lit his cigar, pipe or cigarette. The bill was killed, but it would surprise you to know how many members voted for it.

Both houses convene again Tuesday, and I expect the best part of the mid-day sessions for three or four days this week will be taken up with elections of judges whose terms expire, college trustees, etc. Judge Wilson comes up for re-election, but I am satisfied will have no opposition. Judge Spain of Darlington will be opposed by two or three candidates, one from Bennettsville, a Mr. Owens, and Mr. E. R. McIver of Cheraw, a son of the late Chief Justice McIver. Judge Bowman of Orangeburg, so it is said, will be opposed for re-election by Mr. Ed Dennis of Monck's Corner. In the Columbia and Camden circuit there will be a good lively fight. Judge Mendel Smith has resigned to accept a position as judge advocate in the army, and the aspirants will likely be Mr. Kirkland of Camden, and Messrs. Graydon, W. T. Aycock and W. H. Townsend of Columbia.

I am not going to attempt to discuss county affairs in this letter, as our delegation has not had a meeting yet since we have been over here, and of course have not fully made up our minds as to many matters concerning the county. I want to say for myself, and I know I also speak for Mr. Durant and Mr. Johnson and Mr. Mellett, that representing a county is no child's play job, and we are going to do the best we can for the county, as we have the light before us. Of course we do not expect to be able to please everybody, but we will do what seems to be for the best interests of the people, at any rate.

There is a strong, deep-grounded disposition among the members of the house to get through in thirty days and go home. This disposition is shown most, not in the talk that one hears, but in the fact that the influx of new measures introduced is not nearly so great as usual. The two bills providing revenue for the state government, and the county governments, under our constitution, must originate with the committee on ways and means in the house of representatives. The general assembly cannot adjourn until these two measures have been passed and signed by the governor, thus providing for the running of the state and county governments for the year. The ways and means committee have already begun to hold meetings and get figures and estimates, and these two bills will be introduced about next Wednesday. They will be put through the house and sent to the Senate in about a week or not later than ten days. It will then be up to the Senate as to whether an early adjournment will be had. Last year the Senate put up the appropriations so high after the house had appropriated what it thought was necessary to run the state government, that the house declined to stand for these big appropriations, and there was a deadlock. The house had to either give in or stay there fifteen days longer and get up another bill, and thus the senate won. The house is a body fresh from the masses of the people, and just watch what I am now predicting: The Senate is going to go wild on big appropriations again, and if there is another disagreement and deadlock, causing a long session, I predict that the east wing statesmen will be to blame for it. They are not all that way, but the trouble over there is that there are too many rich men in the Senate, who do not care how taxes go, so long as their big land holdings are assessed at 5 and 6 dollars per acre and the money which they have invested in mortgages escapes taxation altogether. Now call that demagoguism if you want to, but it is the truth, nevertheless.

J. H. Lesesne.

## ARMY WAREHOUSES PREY OF FLAMES

Origin of Fire at Washington Barracks Attributed to Smoking of Soldiers

Washington, Jan. 14.—A quantity of army supplies was destroyed, the quartermaster warehouse ruined and several other buildings damaged by a fire today at the Washington barracks occupied by engineers troops. A large part of the city's fire apparatus was called upon to fight the flames which were given impetus by the explosion.

After a hard fight of an hour and a half, the fire was extinguished. An ordinance building containing a quantity of small arms ammunition was endangered, but soldiers removed what was stored there.

Col. J. K. Earle, commander of the barracks, stated that investigation convinced him that the fire was not started by a spy or enemy sympathizer. He said it was caused by forbidden smoking by soldiers of a fatigue detail.

An estimate of the damage by Col. Earle placed the loss at about \$50,000.

A limited quantity of clothing and shoes was destroyed. The office buildings of the quartermaster department, and the warehouse were the first to catch. In the warehouse, which occupied about a city block, was stored a quantity of gasoline; this soon exploded and intensified and spread the blaze. The fire burned fiercely and the firemen had difficulty in keeping it from spreading to nearby buildings. In the warehouse was stored clothing, shoes and other supplies for the army.

Soldiers stationed at the barracks hastily removed ammunition stored in the ordinance building nearby, and assisted the firemen in fighting the flames.

## UNCLE SAM WANTS FARMERS TO GROW CASTOR BEANS

And Farmers of South Carolina Are Urged to Grow the Bean That Produces It

### FOR LUBRICATING AIRSHIPS

Revival of Industry in This State Will be Patriotic and Profitable

Washington, Jan. 10.—Special: An emergency has arisen. The government will require large quantities of castor oil for lubricating the aeroplane engines. The supply is short and South Carolina, Georgia and Florida are going to be called upon to grow castor beans for the government and for which the government will pay prices which they believe will make it a more profitable crop than any other staple grown in that section.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been spent in conducting experiments for finding an oil for lubricating the liberty motors, which will be used in flying machines, other than castor oil; but these experiments have been in vain, and the only oil that will flow under the atmospheric conditions and temperature conditions met with by these machines is castor oil.

Situation Different Now

In this country years ago castor oil was grown quite extensively and the leading States were Kansas, Oklahoma and Missouri; but India, with labor which could be hired at ten and twenty cents a day, furnished this oil so cheaply that the industry practically died out. The submarine has taken its toll and greatly reduced the world's shipping facilities, and now the industry must be revived, and in those sections where there will be no danger from frost and in the sections where they have long growing seasons; and South Carolina, Georgia and Florida are expected to meet the emergency.

Mr. T. S. Evans, assistant development agent of the Seaboard Air Line Railway Company, with offices at Hamlet, N. C., has been given a contract to secure the planting of 10,000 acres to castor beans, and the farmers of South Carolina and Georgia are expected to grow anywhere from five to 100 acres or more for him.

The government is going to furnish the seed at exact cost to the government, plus the cost of transportation, but they are not to be paid for until after the crop is grown, and from the crop. Mr. Evans will be authorized to pay to any farmer who will grow these beans \$3 per bushel for his entire crop, delivered at the nearest railroad station.

Easy to Grow

Those who have grown castor beans say it is one of the easiest crops produced. There is no insect pest which is known to attack it. Animals and live stock will not eat it.

A bushel consists of forty-six pounds and the price paid will be better than 6 1-4 cents per pound, and in times past they have been profitably grown at three cents a pound.

Any farmer desiring to secure seed and grow this crop under a contract in South Carolina or Georgia, will be expected to address Mr. T. S. Evans, at Hamlet, N. C.

It is not only a patriotic duty to grow these beans, but it is profitable as well, and it is helping to win the war. Posters will be furnished to all farmers growing this crop, which they can post on their farms, showing that they are "doing their bit" towards helping to win the war.

## STEAMSHIP TEXAN GOES DOWN OFF THE ATLANTIC COAST

No Lives Lost as Result of Collision. According to Advice to Navy Department

### VESSELS SENT TO RESCUE

Messages Indicate the Steamer Wilhamette May Have Collided with Big Ship

Washington, Jan. 14.—No reports have been received at the Navy Department from vessels ordered to the assistance of the American steamer Texan, reported early in the day in distress off the Atlantic coast as the result of a collision. According to naval advices no lives were lost in the collision and officials are confident that, even if the ship went down, help was at hand to rescue all on board.

Texan Reported Sinking

An Atlantic Port, Jan. 14.—Agents of the American steamship Texan, a vessel of 14,000 tons today received advices from naval authorities that she was sinking at sea. The location of the ship was not given.

The naval authorities did not state the cause of the Texan's distress, but reports reaching shipping circles here from other sources were that the vessel had been rammed amidship in collision with another ship.

It was said a steamer which had picked up the Texan's S. O. S. calls was hurrying to her assistance and that the crew of forty-three had taken to the boats.

Nitrate for France

The Texan left here recently with a cargo of nitrates, bound for a French port, agents of the vessel stated.

In the absence of definite word regarding the accident shipping men expressed the opinion that the Texan may have encountered an iceberg. Efforts were made by government radio stations to communicate with ships with which the Texan might have been in collision. The fact that the Texan apparently was sinking soon after being rammed, without word as to assistance by another vessel in saving the crew, made the accident puzzling, naval authorities said.

Struck Amidship

Messages reaching here from another port said that a steamer arriving there today reported that at 4 p. m. she picked up an S. O. S. call from the Texan, reporting that she had been struck amidship and was sinking. The last message from the Texan said: "Good-bye—no more."

The message did not give the location of the ship, nor did they say how she was damaged. There were forty-three men aboard. The Texan's wireless operator reported that the starboard boats had been lowered, that the aft boat was lost and that an attempt was being made to lower the forward boat. Oil from the ship's hold was poured on the starboard side in an effort to make the sea conditions better for launching the life boats.

Williamette Message

The ship which brought word of the Texan's plight reported that she had endeavored to get in touch with the latter direct, but had not been able to do so. The vessel picked up a message from the steamer Williamette, saying: "Go to assistance of Texan."

A government radio station picked up a message later from the steamer Williamette sent to an unidentified ship, saying: "Will you escort me back to —?"

The answer was not intelligible. Naval authorities who got the message said they were unable to determine whether the Williamette had been in collision with the Texan or had been damaged by the same agency that sent the Texan to the bottom. Nothing more had been heard from the Texan at noon.

Fragmentary wireless messages suggest that the damaged steamers belonged to a fleet passing north. That none of the messages indicated what had struck them aroused some concern as to the actual cause of their trouble.

## ENGLAND MUST RAISE 420,000 MORE TROOPS

London, Jan. 14.—Between 420,000 and 450,000 troops must be raised at once in this country, Sir Auckland Gosden, minister of national service, told the House of Commons today.

The minister said this was the absolute minimum, and that it might be necessary during the year to take more men from civil life for the army.

Sir Auckland said the government had decided not to introduce conscription in Ireland for the present, nor to change the military age limit. Great Britain and her colonies, he added, had raised 7,000,000 men.

## SMITH'S APPOINTMENT CONFIRMED BY SENATE

Washington, Jan. 14.—Appointment of Senator Smith, of South Carolina, as chairman of the Senate Interstate commerce committee, and of Senator Hardwick, of Georgia, to succeed him as chairman of the immigration committee, recommended by the Democratic steering committee, was confirmed today by the Senate. Senator James was elected to fill the interstate commerce committee vacancy caused by the death of Senator Newlands, of Nevada.